

Hafa Adai!

Survey: 94.7% PSS students are OK with remote learning. **PAGE 2**
Managaha still not fully operational but open to camping. **PAGE 6**

75¢

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Car accident sends man to ICU

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

A truck that hit a pedestrian over the weekend sent one man to the Commonwealth Health Center Intensive Care Unit where he remains clinging to life after an emergency surgery.

See CAR on Page 4

AT A GLANCE

As of 6:40pm, Nov. 15, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	5,755	210	5,965
Recovered	3,667	275	3,942
Active	1,720	210	1,930
Deaths	91	3	94
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	74,067		

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	100	2	102
Traced via Travel Screening	74	2	76
Traced via Community Screening	26	0	26
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	22,633*		
Days since last community transmission	90		

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases. The community-based testing has been temporarily suspended.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

Two more test positive in NMI

» **Guam's COVID-19 deaths now at 94**

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

The CNMI has been without a community transmission of COVID-19 in nearly three months but its tally of positive cases continues to go up, most

See POSITIVE on Page 4



REBURIAL CEREMONY

Sixteen ancestral remains are reburied last Friday, Nov. 13, near the beachside of the Admiral Herbert Hopwood Jr. High School campus. The CNMI State Historic Preservation Office presided over the reburial ceremony.

NEIL FAMA

Story on Page 4

Babauta is sworn into office



Superior Court Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja, right, swears in former Department of Public Safety official Franklin Reyes Babauta into office last Friday as a representative of Precinct 1 at the House of Representatives chamber of the Legislature on Capital Hill.

NEIL FAMA

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REPORTER

U.S. Army veteran and former Department of Public Safety officer Franklin Reyes Babauta took his oath of office as Precinct 1 representative for the House of Representatives at a ceremony in the House chamber last Friday morning.

Babauta's ascension to the office is marked by a first in CNMI history: his wife, Celine, who won the same seat at the Nov. 3 election, will

See BABAUTA on Page 4

Cenzon eyed to replace Tydingco-Gatewood

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REPORTER

cio Cenzon.

See CENZON on Page 4

President Donald J. Trump announced over the weekend his intention to replace Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood with Guam Superior Court Judge Maria Teresa Bonifa-



Tydingco-Gatewood



Cenzon

INSIDE



LOCAL

Construction of the COTA building and maintenance facility in Lower Base is in full swing.

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NATION

A federal judge has ruled that acting DHS Secretary Chad Wolf was not authorized to suspend DACA.

PAGE 12



LIFE & STYLE

The British government approves plans for a tunnel near the prehistoric Stonehenge monument.

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Local

Survey: 94.7% PSS students are OK with remote learning

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

With the Public School System's second semester starting today, Nov. 16, a survey of its students shows that 94.7% are satisfied with remote learning for various reasons, according to Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred B. Ada.

The survey also shows, Ada said, that PSS students are happy with remote learn-

ing for the most part because, one, they are in a safe place, and two, the convenience of when they can turn in their work.

Additionally, Ada stated in an interview that all the schools are open to the idea of face-to-face classes with 10 students or fewer, and that PSS has the ability to increase

the number from 10 students to 15 students in a classroom, while still implementing the social distancing rule.

As for full-day of face-to-face instruction, Ada stated that "blended learning"—a mixture of full-day face-to-face instruction with remote learning—is in the works and will

be happening in January. "We worked really hard to make it happen, so we're going to make it work and that is the direction we're going," said Ada. Right now, he said they are looking at all possible glitches that might happen but they understand that such glitches could happen as with anything new.

Before adding five extra students in a classroom though, Ada said that they will be

meeting with their principals and gathering data on student attendance that will help make that final decision.

Also, Ada said that teachers have been reaching out to students who don't go to in-person instruction and there are very few cases where students do not want to go to class at all. In the meantime, while they are deciding how many students will be in a classroom setting, Ada said that PSS will be continuing with online learning.

"The beauty about this

[online learning] is that they [students] are being responsible. And if they're not, that's where teachers reach out to parents and principals, and we try to work on a case-by-case basis," said Ada, adding that he believes students enjoy online learning so much that they're embracing it and making it work.

When asked if PSS has cases where parents don't want their children to go back to face-to-face instruction, Ada stated that there are a mixed number of parents who still want their children to go to the "old traditional way of a full-day schedule."

\$36M grant for CUC OK'd

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Corp., through the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program, has approved \$36 million worth of projects that the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will embark on to repair infrastructure damaged by Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu.

CUC executive director Gary Camacho announced the corporation's approval of the award last Thursday at the CUC board of directors' regular meeting at the CUC conference room in the Joeten Commercial Building in Dandan.

According to a letter from NMHC corporate director Jesse Palacios that was addressed to Camacho, the projects that were approved for CDBG-DR program funding are:

- Hardening and increasing resiliency of the Dandan Water Tank for future disasters;

- Procurement and installation of 10 back-up generators to provide emergency back-up power to 33 water wells in Kagman, Gualo Rai, Calhoun, Rapagao, Koblerville, and As Matuis/Marpi;

- Replacement of the existing 1.0-million-gallon Kagman Water Tank with a new prestressed concrete water tank. This water tank will be able to serve water to Kag-

man with the ability to move excess water to the Papago, San Vicente, and Dandan tank service;

- Replacement of the existing 1.0-million-gallon As Matuis Water Tank with a new prestressed water tank. The tank serves the villages of San Roque, Achugao, Tanapag, and Lower Base;

- Hardening Power Plant 1;

- Providing power supply reliability to Power Plant 4 through the project proposed repairs and replacement of historically damaged components and vulnerable equipment;

- Replacement of the Tinian Carolinas Heights Village's .5-million-gallon water tank;

- Underground power distribution system for Maui IV-Tinian. Feasibility study/field assessment and design, supply, and construction;

According to the NMHC letter, the NMHC CDBG-DR team has already begun planning for and executing preliminary work needed to ensure that the projects can start as soon as possible and as soon as they get the documents that are needed from CUC.

"I extend my appreciation to the governor, governor's office and all the hardworking people up there [NMHC], along with Mr. Jesse Palacios, for being patient with us and helping us move these projects through the process for approval," said Camacho.

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DPS sees drop in drug cases

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the precautionary measures that are being strictly enforced, the CNMI Department of Public Safety has seen a decline in the number of drug-related crimes.

That's on top of a similar decline in the number of drug cases in the CNMI, according to DPS Commissioner Robert Guerrero in an interview.

"Criminal cases are really low. Drug cases are really low. Our officers are really vigilant in trying to keep our community safe and keep drugs off the streets," he said.

Guerrero partially credits this to the current measures in place like the strict curfew, but also because the DPS Drug Enforcement Task force has been proactive in the fight against drugs.

"Even if you haven't seen [our drug force task force] on the streets, they're out there helping the community," he said.

In a previous interview with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, he said he is thankful for the

work DPS has done in keeping the community safe in these trying times. "I want to thank DPS. We are bombarded with different challenges and, with the crime rate down, it has helped families," he said.

Torres added that it is the hard work of DPS and its officers that makes the CNMI a safe community. "It's all the hard work of our police officers, it makes our community much safer," he said.

To make the job a little easier on the department, Torres is urging the public to step up and speak out about any crime they might know off, no matter how little they may seem. "If you see something, please report [it to the police]. If you can assist [solve] any crime, please contribute by giving information because every crime that we solve, it's one less worry for our department and our community. Whether it's murder, burglary, child abuse, child neglect, child molestation, whatever that crime is, if you know about a crime, no matter how small it might seem, please report and be part of the solution," he said.

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HPO reburies ancestral remains

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

The Historic Preservation Office, under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, reburied 16 ancestral remains last Friday at the Hopwood Junior High School in Afetñas, making this the third reburial HPO has done this year.

The 16 bone fragments were wrapped in cloth and woven palm fronds and were reburied at the Hopwood campus beach, inside a concrete circular frame to denote the sacred site. Prior to the event, there was *kulu* (conch) chanting among participants dressed in traditional attire.

The bones were first dug up in 2004 on Saipan and it was not imme-

diately clear why it took 16 years to have the reburial done.

Last Friday's reburial consisted of only a portion of the remains that HPO has in its possession. According to HPO director Rita Chong, HPO wants to rebury the rest of the remains that are in their repository as soon as possible. Their objective is to rebury the rest of the remains in their repository within the next six months. "We are just very happy that we could get our ancestors back to where they belong," said Chong.

Also, HPO will be coordinating with the Tinian and Rota mayor's offices to bury ancestral remains that were also dug up previously on both islands.

HPO first scheduled the reburial of last Friday's remains on Nov. 6 but that was cancelled due to bad weather.

Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada stated that it was a "silver lining" because he was not able to attend the first scheduled reburial. He said that HPO is the "backbone" to the whole event because it was important that the remains be returned where they were found.

"This was my first time to [attend] and I was very moved. ... We're returning [our ancestors] back to their peaceful life...so I'm so glad I made it today," said Ada.

As for how they will keep the students away from the sacred site, Ada stated that the students will be informed, and he hopes that they will not "break the school rules"

but to respect it is a sacred place.

DCCA Secretary Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, who used to work for HPO, believes that what happened last Nov. 13 reflects the significance of human remains. "As we develop this island, oftentimes, when we're building something, they encounter human remains, especially ancient human remains. It's very sacred, and we try to avoid disturbing it," said Deleon Guerrero. If the remains aren't put to rest as soon as possible after exhuming them, the

policy still remains that they need to be reburied appropriately.

"The trade-off is, in lieu of disturbing these ancient remains, what we get out of it is information that we can then share on with our people," said Deleon Guerrero.

This was this year's third reburial done by HPO. The first one was the reburial of ancient remains dug up at the casino site in Garapan, then the human remains that were dug up at the Surfrider Hotel construction site in Chalan Kanoa.

Senate cannabis committee wants update

The Senate Standing Committee on Cannabis and Gaming will meet tomorrow, Tuesday, to discuss matter relevant to the CNMI Cannabis Commission's operations.

Committee chair Sen. Vinnie F. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) encourages the public to submit written testimonies before the committee meeting at 10am. Oral testimonies will be received at the meeting.

In a recent interview, the senator said they will discuss updates and how the cannabis permitting and licensing process is going, plus several concerns raised at recent zoning hearings.

"So mainly updates to see where

they're at. And you know, what's down the pipeline with the cannabis industry," Sablan said.

Last Nov. 10, CNMI Cannabis Commission managing director Monique Sablan disclosed during the Rotary Club of Saipan's meeting at Hyatt Regency Saipan that there are 12 applications for commercial licenses that are pending and that they have already approved nine applications for homegrown license and that they are expecting even more applications to come in.

She projects to see the cannabis industry take off in 2021. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

POSITIVE

From Page 1

recently with the addition of two, mainly because of travelers who are caught in the COVID-19 dragnet that are in place for arriving passengers.

In the latest case, the two travelers tested positive for COVID-19 last Saturday, raising the CNMI's cumulative total to 102.

According to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the two individuals were identified by travel screening and confirmed diagnosis through testing upon arrival and the routine fifth day of testing. They have been safely in quarantine since arriving and were moved to the designated isolation area, which is the Alternate Care Site at Kanoa Resort in Susupe, upon testing positive.

CHCC has already initiated con-

tact tracing for the most immediate contacts of the new confirmed cases, including passengers on the same flight.

Of the 102 confirmed cases in the CNMI, 76 are incoming passengers (36 from the U.S. mainland, 29 from a U.S. territory, and 11 from foreign countries). Twenty-six cases were also from community transmission—10 from contact tracing and 16 from community testing conducted by CHCC, including two deaths. The CNMI hasn't had any community transmission since its 54th case in early August.

COVID-19 in Guam

Guam's tally of deaths from COVID-19 now stands at 94 after three more deaths over the weekend.

In the latest case, Guam's 94th COVID-19-related fatality occurred at the Guam Memorial Hos-

pital at 10:10am yesterday. The patient was a 73-year-old female with underlying conditions that were further compounded by COVID-19. She was transferred to GMH from the Guam Regional Medical City on Nov. 7, 2020, and was a known positive case, according to the Guam Joint Information Center.

"To her family and friends, may you find comfort from the support of an island who mourns with you. Please accept our sincere condolences and sympathies," said Guam Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero. "Our hearts may be troubled and our troubles and sorrows may seem everlasting, but if we remain true to our commitment, we can overcome."

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

CAR

From Page 1

Sixty-five-year-old Edmund Rabauliman, a retired Emergency Management Office personnel, was reportedly crossing the road to go to the Hemlani Apartment in Chalan Piao when the vehicle-pedestrian collision occurred last Friday at around 7pm.

According to Lin Rabauliman, the man's daughter, her father did not die from the crash but he continues to fight for his life and remains under close watch at CHCC. She added that her father was taken into surgery early Saturday morning, for the injuries he sustained to his face.

"He didn't die. He survived but he's in the ICU right now. This morning he went into surgery because his face was really swollen," she said.

Lin said she didn't see the accident because she was in their home and cooking dinner at the time it happened. Neighbors were the ones who came to inform her that her dad had just been hit by a car.

"He was coming home from the store. He was crossing the road on his way over here. We don't know everything because I was cooking at that time. Our neighbor came out and told us to check our dad because he was hit by a car," she said.

Lin said the car that hit her father was a Toyota Tacoma. Lin said the driver stopped after hitting her father and got down from his vehicle to check on him. He also apologized to her and their family at the scene and told them he did not see him crossing.

Lin said she felt the accident was not completely the operator's fault because her father is notorious for

crossing the road while intoxicated.

"He said that he didn't see my dad walking. The police were pushing me to press charges but I said no because part of me knows that my dad drinks every day and, when he crosses the street, he just walks straight out. He expects the cars to stop for him," she said.

Lin said she wants to spread awareness about the dangers of jaywalking as well as driver safety in villages that are not well lit at night.

"I just want to say if you want to cross the street, please don't jaywalk, use the cross walk. Also, drivers should be more cautious, especially when it's dark," she said.

Saipan Tribune has reached out to the Department of Public Safety about the incident but, as of Sunday, DPS said they have yet to compile reports from the incident to issue a press release.

Cenzon was sworn into office as a judge of the Guam Superior Court in 2012. She is the first Filipina-American to serve on the bench in Guam courts.

Prior to her 2012 appointment to the bench, Cenzon served as chief legal counsel to the Governor of Guam and director of Policy, Planning & Community Relations for the Unified Judiciary of Guam.

Cenzon obtained her B.A. from Marquette University and her Juris Doctor (law degree) from the Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

2006, making her the first female Chamorro chief judge of the District Court of Guam. In May 2016, President Barack Obama renominated her to another 10 years on the bench. In January 2017, her nomination was returned to the president at the adjournment of the 114th U.S. Congress.

Tydingco-Gatewood presides over many cases filed before the U.S. District Court for the NMI. One of those cases was the Betty Johnson's class action against the NMI Retirement Fund and the CNMI government that was resolved with a settlement agreement.

CENZON

From Page 1

Tydingco-Gatewood, who is chief judge of the U.S. District Court of Guam, will keep her position until Cenzon is confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

Territory judges serve a term of 10 years subject to renewal by renomination and confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

President George W. Bush appointed Tydingco-Gatewood in

BABAUTA

From Page 1

take over the reins of the office in January 2021.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja swore in Babauta, 53, during the ceremony last Friday. House Speaker Blas Jonathan T. Attao (R-Saipan) led the lawmakers in congratulating and welcoming Babauta to House of Representatives of the 21st NMI Legislature.

Babauta thanked the people of Precinct 1 for their vote of confidence during the 2018 election, saying his term may be short but his philosophy will be guided by "serving the community with loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage to work in the service of others."

"I'm ready to work with you all in the coming days. I look forward for the challenges and exciting time together," he told other lawmakers who attended the ceremony.

He said it's a privilege and an honor to serve the community in the decision-making process that they will be doing. "I am so proud to be part of the decision-making process. And I'm hoping that with the short time that we're together, that we will be able to work on some bills, and to welcome the new leadership in the 2021," Babauta said.

In a later interview, Babauta said he will be working with other lawmakers on whatever comes out on the legislative calendar. "Once we set all those dates for our meetings...I'll be reviewing and be participating in some of the bills that will be coming up," he said.

At this time, he said, it all depends on what hearings will be scheduled because of the short time that they have.

Babauta said he is passionate about education in the CNMI. "Our education is our priority, especially for our

children's education. The future of the CNMI is based on the education system that we have," he said, adding that the more educated CNMI students are, the better will the future of the CNMI be.

Babauta said he has been providing his services to the nation and to other countries and other places and that it's time for him to come back and provide that same leadership and other skills to the CNMI.

Celina Babauta also thanked the people of Precinct 1 for giving her husband their vote of confidence in 2018. "It's been a long time coming but we are grateful for this day for this opportunity. We take it one day at a time and Franklin's day has come today. So we are very, very appreciative," she said.

Last Wednesday, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres appointed Babauta to represent Precinct 1, soon after Attao declared a vacancy when Edwin K. Propst resigned as Precinct 1 representative last Oct. 1.

Babauta, who ran as an independent candidate in 2018, landed in seventh place, where there are six House slots. He will serve until Jan. 11, 2021, which is Propst's remaining term.

Come Jan. 11, Babauta will turn over the House office's keys to his wife at the completion of his term.

Celina Babauta got the second highest number of votes at the general election last Nov. 3, just behind Propst, based on the Commonwealth Election Commission's unofficial tabulation results.

Babauta retired from DPS in August 2006 with the last rank as deputy commissioner for administration.

In 2007, Babauta moved to Guam and joined the Guam Army National Guard. He was then deployed to Afghanistan. He retired with a rank of lieutenant colonel with the U.S. Army in 2015. In the military, his last tour of duty was with the security forces advisory team in Afghanistan.

Administration gives update on COTA building project

Construction of the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority's Administrative Building & Maintenance Facility in Lower Base is in full swing since its groundbreaking and the Torres-Palacios administration has high hopes for its completion.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said this project will increase public transportation access and open up job opportunities for residents within this growing public service.

"Public transportation is one of the biggest factors in alleviating poverty throughout the United States, and our administration through the dedication and commitment of our COTA team have worked very hard to make this a real system here in the CNMI. As we expand services, we also want to expand job opportunities for residents who want to be a part of this exciting development. By truly creating a public transportation system that is comprehensive and reaches the most underserved and vulnerable areas in our community, we help people get to work, apply for jobs, and avail of important public services," said Torres.

Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios said the project is one of several infrastructure projects in the



Construction of the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority's Administrative Building & Maintenance Facility in Lower Base is in full swing.

pipeline these next two years. "COTA is doing their part to making it easier for folks to find a job, go to their medical appointments, or attend classes at the Northern Marianas College. With the progress being made on our public transportation and within our infrastructure planning efforts, we will soon see new facilities and improved roads to make life better. Our goal is to expand economic opportunity for all residents, and this is one of many projects to achieve this priority," said Palacios.

The project is located in Lower Base, Saipan with an

approximate area of 7,114 square meters. It includes construction of an administration and maintenance facility, paved parking and driveways, water storage tank, generator and its enclosure, ponding basins, perimeter fencing, and perimeter security lighting.

Alfreda P. Camacho, special assistant for Public Transportation, said the COTA administrative and maintenance facility consists of a concrete building (combined structure) with approximately 10,900 square feet of total floor space.

"The project, which technically started on July 29, 2020,

will be completed on Oct. 2, 2021, for a total performance period of 430 calendar days. The project accomplishment to date is approximately 4% as of October. We are making significant progress, and we look forward to seeing this project completed next year so that we can expand public transportation services for our community," said Camacho.

The project site is located on potentially compressible soils, which may result in significant settlements. To improve the site economically and effectively, preloading (surcharge) was recommend-

ed to consolidate it relatively quick under loading. Preloading of the building site began on Sept. 14, 2020, and is now on its fourth lift out of the anticipated five lifts. The rate of settlement will be monitored regularly until such time that preloading is complete as determined by the geotechnical engineer on the project.

The building finish floor elevation was established at 9.10 feet, which is 2.10 feet above the base flood elevation. The project contractor, RNV Construction, has started their mobilization on Aug. 7, 2020. Temporary facilities such as field offices, storage and fabrication sheds, access gates, parking, and temporary utilities have been completed. The contractor has also com-

pleted the temporary construction fence along the project boundaries. Excavation of temporary ponds and swales that will contain the surface runoff within the project site was also done.

"This is one of those very important projects that positively impacts our Commonwealth, and that this administration would like to see completed in a timely manner. We anticipated normal construction challenges when we awarded this project especially at this time of the year, however, we are working very closely with the Department of Public Works and our construction manager GHD, Inc. to ensure the project will be completed on time and within budget," said Camacho. (PR)

Scheduled power outage tomorrow

There will be a scheduled power service interruption tomorrow, Nov. 17, 2020, from 9am to 1pm on Beach Road, from the Kristo Rai Church south to the Joeten Superstore in San Jose.

This will allow linemen of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to safely relocate a primary power pole and to replace rusted power pole hardware on six primary power poles on Beach Road.

Because of the scale of work that will be done, CUC asks travelers to take alternative routes or to exercise caution when driving through the working area.

The power outage will affect the traffic light at the Atkins Kroll intersection in San Jose but no water well will be affected. Three wastewater lift stations—S-10, S-11, and S-12—will be affected. (PR)

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Managaha still not fully operational but open to camping

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Although Managaha Island is still not fully operational, the Department of Public Lands allowed starting Thursday last week the resumption of camping activities on the island, albeit with certain limitation.

DPL Secretary Marianne Concepcion-Teregeyo said in a public notice that, due to the limited resources available on the island, only 25 people will be allowed to camp on Managaha per night for health and safety reasons.

When asked for more information Thursday, Deveney Dela Cruz, the DPL special

» DPL resumes camping activity, with 25 people per night

assistant to the secretary, said there is currently a \$25 refundable security deposit for the camper's permit. Dela Cruz said a group of campers will pay just \$25 for that group when they submit their permit and they will get the money back on the next business day after they leave Managaha.

She said a DPL ranger staff will assess and patrol the island every morning.

Dela Cruz said Managaha is still not fully operational due

to the contractual end of the previous concessionaire. "Services and staff are limited even during operational hours," she said.

Dela Cruz said they are allowing camping to resume since it was only meant to be a temporary suspension.

DPL temporarily suspended camping activities on the island last Sept. 29 after the COVID-19 curfew was reinstated at that time.

Dela Cruz said the community risk level is still on Level Blue so only 50 people can gather in one place at a time, but with their facilities not being available outside of operational hours, they are limit-

ing the maximum capacity to 25 a night.

She said that, according to one of their permit technicians, there were approximately 50-60 campers over the course of a month prior to COVID-19.

"All those who are enjoying Managaha during the day and those who have agreed to camp during the evening are kindly reminded to follow the regulations posted on the island, local laws, and COVID-19 guidelines since they are still on CNMI soil, to pick up after themselves during their stay, and to take all personal belongings with them as they leave the island," Dela Cruz said.

Military trainings set

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Radio Barrigada on the following dates and times:

■ Nov. 16 to 17, from noon to 11:55pm

■ Nov. 18 to 19, from 9am to 11:55pm

Blank ammunition is authorized for this training. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity.

The U.S. Navy will also conduct training in Agat Bay and Outer Apra Harbor on the following dates and times:

■ Nov. 16 to 17, from noon to 11:55pm

■ Nov. 18 to 19, from 9am to 11:55pm

Blank ammunition will be used for this training. Mariners and residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they hear or see increased activity.

The U.S. Navy will conduct live fire exercises in open ocean at coordinates: 13°26'N/145°08'E, 13°42'N/144°36'E on the following dates and times:

■ Nov. 16 to 17, from noon to 11:55pm

■ Nov. 18 to 19, from 9am to 11:55pm

Marine vessels are advised to remain clear of the area for the duration of these events and to monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast Notice to Mariners for advisories.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Radio Barrigada on Nov. 16, from 7 to 11:55pm. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they

hear or see increased activity due to the training.

The U.S. Air Force and Navy will conduct live fire exercises in Warning Area 517 on Nov. 16 to 20, from 8am to 9pm. Marine vessels are advised to remain clear of the area from 2pm to 9pm for the duration of these events and to monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast Notice to Mariners for advisories.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Radio Barrigada on Nov. 17, from 8am to 2pm. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they hear or see increased activity due to the training.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Outer Apra Harbor and Reserve Craft Beach on Nov. 17 to 19 from 10am to 8pm. Marine vessels and the public are advised to remain clear of units training in the area.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in the vicinity of Pago Bay on Nov. 17 to 20, from 9am to 4pm. The public and mariners are advised to be aware of military personnel training in the area.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Outer Apra Harbor on Nov. 19, from 12:05am to 11:55pm. The public and marine vessels are advised to remain clear of units training in the area.

These trainings support readiness and are critical to developing the skills needed to respond to operational missions throughout the region to ensure a stable, free, and open Indo to Pacific. **(PR)**

Tribe Marianas signs on as NMC ProaPerks partner

Tribe Marianas is the latest company to sign on as a Northern Marianas College ProaPerks partner, joining many other businesses and organizations that provides exclusive discounts and benefits for NMC students, employees,

and alumni.

All card-carrying members of the NMC ProaPerks program can avail of various discounts on in-store items.

Tribe Marianas joins a growing list of ProaPerks partners, such as 4EVER CNMI,

Alamo Car Rental, All Star Sporting Goods, Athlete's Foot, Boarderline, Bubba Gump, Caravan of Food, Casa Urashima, Docomo Pacific, Dollar Days (Garapan), Enterprise Car Rental, Ete Cafe, Fishing Tackle and Sporting Goods, Garapan Restaurant, Great Harvest, Kiki's, Latte Built Gym, National Car Rental, Natural Nail & Spa, NMC Bookstore, Pena House Boutique, Saipan Computer Services, Salty's, Surf Club, Shirley's Coffee Shop, Triple J Motors, and The Pacific Supply.

NMC is in the introductory phase of rolling out ProaPerks to alumni, students, and employees. For more information, visit marianas.edu/proaperks.php.

Companies and other interested organizations who would like to become part of the ProaPerks program and take advantage of the buying power of thousands of individuals that include NMC alumni, students, and employees, can find more information by emailing proaperks@marianas.edu. **(PR)**



Tribe Marianas is now a proud NMC ProaPerks partner. All card-carrying members of the ProaPerks program can avail of various discounts on in-store items.

NMC

Upcoming SHEFA deadlines

The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance is reminding the public of its upcoming deadlines:

■ Deadline for spring 2021 application only is

Dec. 1, 2020

■ Deadline for spring 2021 supporting documents is Feb. 28, 2021. (Make sure all documents are complete before submission). **(PR)**



SEA TURTLES

Sea turtles are important for our islands and environment! They maintain the health of sea grass beds and coral reefs. Sea turtles balance marine food webs by controlling prey populations. Lastly, turtles boost tourism and the economy through marine recreational activities.

Unfortunately, due to decades of intense hunting, sea turtle populations are only a fraction of their historic abundance. Only 12 female turtles return to CNMI to nest every year and this number keeps declining!

Sea turtles are protected by local and federal laws. It is our responsibility to protect and give populations time to recover. Sea turtles provided for us in the past and now depend on us for their survival.

SAVE TURTLES! REPORT VIOLATIONS & TURTLE EMERGENCIES: 670-287-8537

Calls are completely anonymous, our hotline is open 24 hours a day.

DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP21-BECQ/DEQ-011

SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 09, 2020 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

"SOIL SPECIALIST FOR THE 2021 NATIONAL WETLAND CONDITION ASSESSMENT FOR THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL COASTAL QUALITY, DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

****FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY****

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP **MUST** BE SUBMITTED VIA-EMAIL TO **MR. LARRY MAURIN** AT larrymaurin@becq.gov.mp, **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS NOVEMBER 25, 2020**. ALL QUESTIONS SUBMITTED AFTER THE GIVEN DEADLINE WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PERSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ELI D. CABRERA
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

Attention CNMI Government Employees, Retirees and Surviving Spouses

It's Open Enrollment time

Open enrollment runs Monday, November 16 — Friday, December 18

We're honored to continue delivering health insurance coverage and well-being resources to CNMI Government active employees, retirees, surviving spouses and your families throughout this challenging year and beyond.

Our goal is to provide you with access to the highest levels of care and support possible through our:

- Strong local presence, in partnership with Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc.
- Comprehensive global resources
- 24/7 Member Service Support

Due to COVID-19 your enrollment experience looks different this year. But don't worry ... we've got you covered.

Your health and safety are paramount. That's why we're doing Open Enrollment a little differently this year:

- We're adhering to COVID-19 safety protocols and government regulations
- Visit the websites listed below to view your Open Enrollment material and enrollment/change of status form to help you choose the best plan for you and your loved ones
- Open Enrollment support will be available by phone
(in-person meetings will be limited to appointment only)

After reviewing your plan options and premium cost share, if you're satisfied with your current plan and coverage, you DO NOT need to submit an enrollment form. Your current benefits will be rolled over into the new plan year and you'll continue to use your current Member ID card.

However, if after reading through your Open Enrollment material you'd like additional support, we will be happy to help:

- For Open Enrollment inquiries, contact Pacifica locally at: **670-234-6267** Monday — Friday, 8 AM-5 PM
- For non-OE related inquiries, contact our Member Service Center 24/7 at: **800-231-7729**

Websites to help you choose a plan:

- Aetna International: **www.AetnaInternational.com/cnmi-ghli**
- CNMI Dept of Finance: **www.dof.gov.mp**
- Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc.: **www.pacificains.com/ghlit**

Upon completing an Enrollment/Change of Status Form, deliver your Form and any required documentation:

- Active employees: to your respective Agency/Department of Human Resources
- Retirees and surviving spouses: to Pacifica located in the Joeten Shopping Center, Insatto St., Susupe

Open enrollment runs Monday, November 16 — Friday, December 18.

AetnaInternational.com

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Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Vaccine news brings hope

Finally...some much-needed good news in the battle against the coronavirus.

Pharmaceutical giant Pfizer Inc. announced Monday that its COVID-19 vaccine showed an astounding 90% effectiveness rate in early test results and that initial doses—if approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration later this month—could be available by the end of the year.

It seems everyone welcomed the news, from health officials to politicians to Wall Street, where the markets soared.

Health officials have been saying for some time that a vaccine could be approved by year's end, but the reported effectiveness caught everyone by surprise. Most experts had hoped for a vaccine that might be 60% effective, so the early results from Pfizer are remarkable. Dr. Anthony Fauci, the country's top infectious disease expert, said the results suggesting 90% effectiveness are "just extraordinary."

Pfizer, which did not join the Trump administration's Operation Warp Speed but instead opted to invest \$2 billion of its own money in testing and expanded manufacturing capacity, did sign a \$1.95 billion government contract to supply 100 million doses to the U.S.

While all of this is good news in the ongoing fight against COVID-19, it must also be tempered with some unpleasant realities. Confirmed cases are climbing daily throughout the U.S. and the rest of the world. The U.S. now has more than 10 million confirmed cases, highest in the world, and nearly 240,000 deaths reported.

A vaccine, while holding the promise most have been waiting for, will not be an immediate end to the pandemic. It's estimated that about 50 million doses will be available from Pfizer initially, and that will cover 25 million people since two doses are required per person. The first to be inoculated will likely be health care workers and at-risk populations.

In the meantime, confirmed cases nationally—already running at record rates of more than 100,000 per day—will continue to rise, and tens of thousands more deaths are expected in the coming months as cold weather moves in and people spend more time indoors.

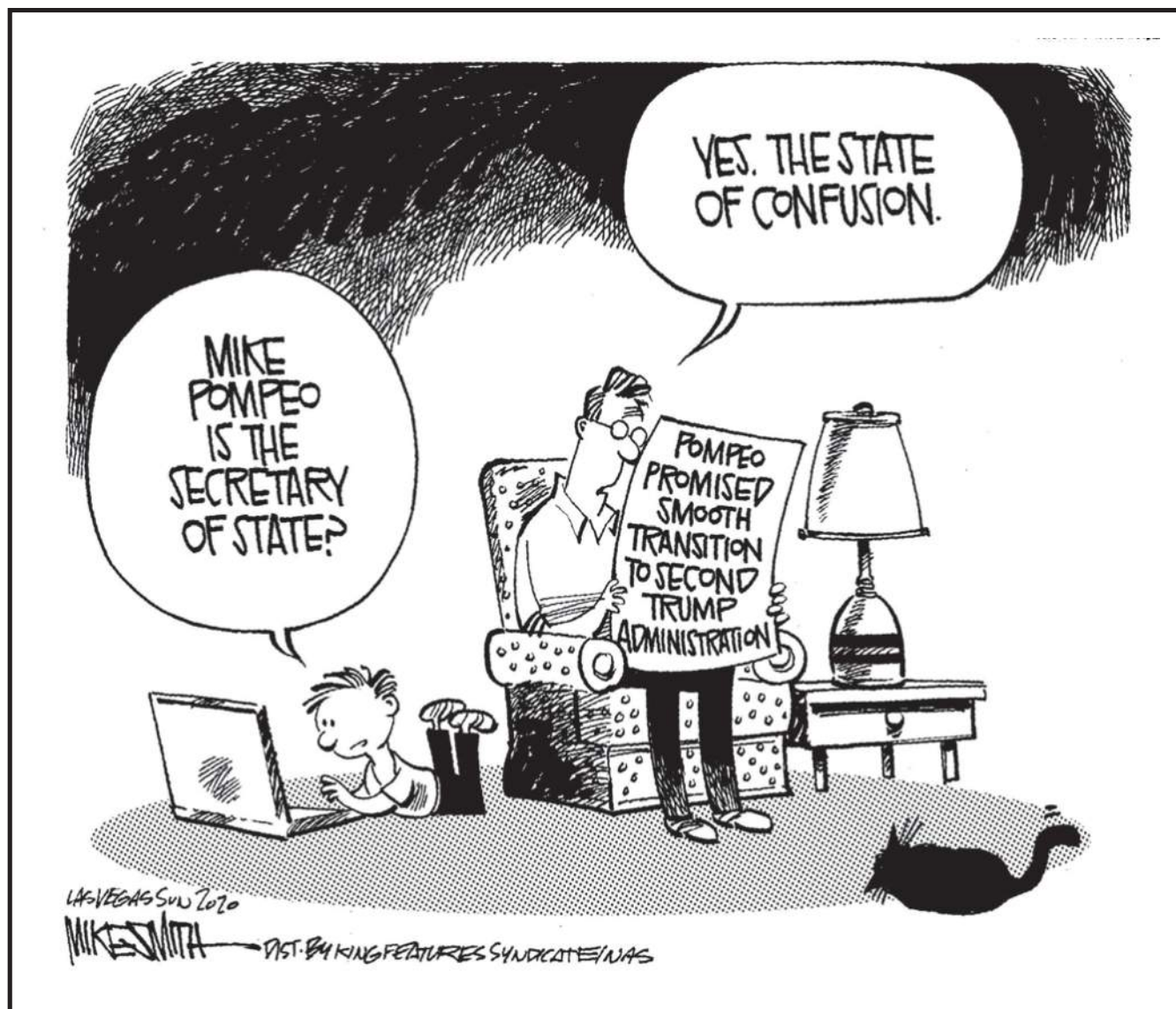
The vaccine will not end the disease because people can continue to be infected in the interim period. Officials estimate it could take as long as a year to effectively inoculate the majority of the U.S. population.

And there will be major distribution issues to work out because of the vaccine's super-cold storage requirements. It needs to be kept at a temperature of minus 94 degrees, and that could severely limit its availability to rural areas of the U.S. or poor countries with limited resources.

The development of an effective vaccine could be the turning point the world has been waiting for in the fight to control COVID-19. But we are still a long way from making it widely available. The best course of action in the meantime is the same advice health officials have been offering for months—wear a mask (to protect you and others), practice social distancing and wash your hands frequently.

The end to the pandemic is not yet in sight, but there's hope.

(c) 2020 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



Lockdowns make perfect sense now

The development of what looks like an effective vaccine against COVID-19 has ignited hopes that the worst of the pandemic will be over relatively soon. If successful, it will also vindicate a strategy that has proven controversial: Slowing down the spread of SARS-CoV-2 through draconian restrictions on people's activity.

The basic idea behind "lockdowns" was to flatten the curve of contagion so that it wouldn't overwhelm hospitals. This strategy had one major flaw: It didn't bring about a definitive end to the outbreak. The pandemic abated in the summer, thanks to the restrictions governments introduced in the spring. After politicians relaxed the rules, however, the virus regathered its strength. The same pattern appears to be emerging in the U.S., as New York City and other places battle with a rising second wave.

Buying time makes sense if you're trying to reduce the number of people who catch the most severe forms of COVID-19 at the same time, allowing doctors to take better care of them. But it's less effective if you've no good endgame to look forward to, other than the constant closing and reopening of your economy.

The proponents of "herd immunity"—and opponents of lockdowns—often start from the premise that there's no point trying to slow down the virus, since eventually we'll all have to catch it. Shutting schools, shops and restaurants only delays the inevitable. It's an idea that made Sweden famous in the first wave of the outbreak (even though the country denied it was ever a goal).

The announcement from Pfizer Inc. and BioNTech SE this week—if confirmed by further data—knocks down this line of thinking. It confirms that at least one vaccine will probably be available widely from early to mid-2021. If so, it makes sense for countries to continue to constrain the virus for another few months, in order to minimize deaths until there's widespread immunization. Assuming governments can distribute the first doses to the most vulnerable, and they're effective, only a few months of waiting could save many lives.

This doesn't mean governments have to opt for full lockdowns. Some countries such as Germany contained the first wave with fewer restrictions than states such as Italy and Spain. Effective tracing systems and strong hospital networks were important.

By **FERDINANDO GIUGLIANO**
Bloomberg Opinion

Ferdinando Giugliano writes columns on European economics for Bloomberg Opinion. He is also an economics columnist for La Repubblica and was a member of the editorial board of the Financial Times. For more articles like this, please visit us at [bloomberg.com/opinion](https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion)



There are tentative signs, too, that the second wave might be stabilizing in parts of Europe, such as the U.K., even though lockdowns are looser now than in the spring—relying, for example, on regional restrictions and targeted closures of businesses. If cases and hospitalizations don't accelerate, and eventually fall, it may be possible to avoid draconian measures while "flattening the curve."

The discovery of an effective vaccine also has implications for economic policy. If countries only need wait a few more months before life slowly returns to normal, the case strengthens for very generous fiscal and monetary support. In a world without widespread immunization, it made less sense to keep propping up businesses that would eventually become unviable. Why not just adapt to the "new normal" and accept more bankruptcies now, while retraining workers?

A working vaccine would suggest the current recession is temporary, and that governments should provide a financial bridge for companies and employees.

There are, inevitably, plenty of reasons for caution. Pfizer and BioNTech are still waiting for data to ensure their vaccine is safe. We don't know how long immunization will last, nor how well it will do for subgroups such as the elderly. Or indeed if it can prevent the worst forms of COVID-19. A vaccine will take time to distribute and the need to have two doses will delay the immunization program. Governments can still cause unnecessary deaths if they don't get the logistics right.

However, the rapid discovery of a seemingly effective remedy does justify some of the tough choices made around the world. Restrictions haven't been easy to cope with, but they may have been worth it.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Youth must lead on climate change fight

The election of Joe Biden as the 46th president of the United States came as a massive relief to climate activists around the world, myself included. But it will take a lot more than an election to beat back this existential threat.

Biden has a promising climate action plan, but getting it through a nearly evenly divided Senate and past a conservative-dominated Supreme Court will be tremendously difficult. We're going to need all hands on deck.

Over the past several months, I have been working with young activists from around the country and world on climate issues. I am struck by the impressive organizing capacity of my fellow activists, some as young as 13 or 14 years old. It is infuriating to see young people be forced to grow up so quickly because past generations failed to address the climate crisis.

At 20, I know all too well what it's like to come of age in a world threatened by climate change. I have a lot of respect for the young people leading this fight. Our youngest generation possesses maturity beyond their years.

In some ways, however, I've found that climate work can easily slip into the virtue signaling and validation seeking of performative activism—projecting support for an issue to boost your own image. But climate activism cannot stop at the symbolic.

We must bear in mind that organizing isn't for a resume, it's for human lives and for our futures.

With so many climate advocates out there, there is much untapped potential for political mobilization. Posting on social media and holding climate strikes alone will not stop the loss of one of the world's largest carbon sinks, nor will it prevent the thousands of deaths expected from lax air quality regulation. Climate action demands our undivided attention, not just a retweet on Twitter.

Working in the climate movement, I have been called "too radical" by moderate climate advocates, and "not radical enough" by progressive activists, especially with regard to my support for Biden.

But I realize the importance of addressing climate change with a strong, united front, rather than excluding people from the climate movement because of differences in opinion. It is easy to get caught up in idealism when it comes to climate activism, but we must attend to our political reality and adjust accordingly.

Biden will be the most progressive leader on climate to ever occupy the White House. But keeping up the pressure to act is more crucial than ever. We must convey that we are all in the same fight: for our climate and our planet, for human and animal lives and for the future of us all.

By HANNAH REYNOLDS

Tribune News Service

Hannah Reynolds (hannahr@princeton.edu) is a junior at Princeton University studying anthropology. This column was produced for the Progressive Media Project, which is run by The Progressive magazine, and distributed by Tribune News Service



Even those too young to vote or run for office can influence policy, and there's power in our numbers. With limited time left to act on climate change, we cannot afford to maintain moral high grounds and idealistic fantasies as a means of exclusion.

Rather, we must establish united efforts, across generations and political spectrums, toward tangible change that addresses the crisis at hand.

There is no room for stagnation. We fought to elect officials that would support progress on climate, and we must prepare to keep fighting for our voices to be heard.

Where should evangelicals go now?

Evangelical Christians have unquestionably been a loyal and largely unmovable base of support for President Donald Trump since he has been in office, and in some cases before. Should the election results not be overturned by recounts or court decisions, where do they go and what should they do?

Perhaps no evangelical pastor has been a stronger and more consistent supporter and defender of President Trump than Dr. Robert Jeffress, who leads the 13,000-member First Baptist Church in Dallas.

In an essay written for the Fox News website, Jeffress urges his fellow evangelicals to return to their first love. He's not calling for their withdrawal from politics, but for them to focus on something that is often beyond understanding.

Presuming a confirmed win by Joe Biden, Jeffress asks, "What is God doing in this outcome? Why would He allow this to happen?"

The presumption is that the God of the evangelicals should be on the side of Republicans and conservatives, but as Scripture notes, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord." (Isaiah 55:8)

While acknowledging that "for millions of Christians across our nation" the election of former Vice President Biden and Sen. Kamala Harris "is a bitter pill to swallow," Jeffress writes he once quoted Daniel 2:21 to Donald Trump the year before he was inaugurated: "It is God who changes the times and the epochs. He removes kings and establishes kings."

Jeffress adds, "Human government and rulers change at God's direction and design. Our faith and our salvation lie not in any human ruler, but in the ruler of rulers, the King of kings. The fact that God has established authorities means that by obeying the government, we obey God."

For many that is going to be the bitterest pill of all. How can they pray for an administration that promotes values and ideologies they oppose? The scriptural command leaves no room for debate, much less disagreement.

This is another opportunity for evangelicals to obey what their leader—Jesus—commanded them to do. While He presides over governments and rulers, what influence on culture and even government would it have if evangelicals en masse began obeying His commands? As most should know and have heard in sermons in many of their churches, these include, "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor' and 'Hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous ..." (Matthew 5:43-45)

That politics and politicians may work contrary to evangelical beliefs does not mean they have been deprived of opportunities to do good. On abortion they can support a local pregnancy help center. When it comes to reaching poor children trapped in failing schools, they can start a fund to help at least some escape to

By CAL THOMAS

Tribune Content Agency

Readers may email Cal Thomas at tcaeditors@tribpub.com.



good private schools.

Poverty? A church might organize retired professionals to reach out to the poor to help them find meaningful work and train them to qualify for it. They could also visit those in prison, as Jesus commanded. It isn't difficult to find them. Research ministries already helping and volunteer.

Jeffress concludes his essay by saying that God's command "applies all the same, whether the emperor was the faith-friendly Constantine, or the evil emperor Nero.

"When Joe Biden becomes president, we should commend him for the things he does right. We should condemn the things he does wrong. And above all, we must pray fervently for our president. If President Biden succeeds, we all succeed."

As Baptists might respond: Amen!

The McCarrick report must be the Catholic Church's #MeToo moment

The Vatican this week released an eye-popping report documenting how Theodore McCarrick, the defrocked former cardinal archbishop of Washington, D.C., ascended in the church hierarchy despite warnings that he had sexually harassed young seminarians.

The report, released by the Vatican secretary of state's office, assigns primary responsibility for McCarrick's advancement to Pope John Paul II, a favorite of Catholic conservatives, and essentially exonerates the current pope, Francis. It discredits the suggestion by Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, a retired Vatican diplomat, that Francis had relaxed "sanctions" imposed by now retired Pope Benedict XVI. (Vigano also accused Francis of being close to a "homosexual current" in the church.)

In assessing blame for the rise of McCarrick, a prodigious fundraiser, the report confirms much that was already obvious from decades of scandal over the church's cover-up of sexual abuse of minors. When confronted with suspicious behavior or even specific evidence, church authorities turned a blind eye or gave accused clerics the benefit of the doubt.

On Wednesday Pope Francis said that "I renew my closeness to victims of any abuse and commitment of the church to eradicate this evil." It's unclear, however, whether the McCarrick investigation will be an inflection point in the church's newfound commitment to confronting sexual abuse by the clergy and abandoning a culture of cover-up.

In the aftermath of the McCarrick investigation, liberal and conservative Catholics probably will continue to refract the issue of clerical sexual abuse through their respective partisan lenses. Liberals will link the problem to mandatory celibacy for priests; conservatives will complain about a gay subculture in the clergy.

But there is one arguably new takeaway from the report: that the church is belatedly realizing that sexual abuse of children and adolescents, horrific as it obviously is, isn't the only form of sexual predation by priests.

The report does discuss some accusations about McCarrick and pedophilia, and includes excerpts from interviews with a woman who in the 1980s sent anonymous letters to church leaders about a threat to children posed by McCarrick. (In the interviews cited in the report, she said that she had seen McCarrick massaging the thighs of her teenage sons, but the letters were apparently less specific.)

But when John Paul II decided to appoint McCarrick archbishop of Washington in 2000, the accusations against McCarrick confidentially being discussed by church leaders mostly involved his alleged relationships with seminarians and other young men (including sharing a bed with them) and with a fellow priest.

Things changed in 2018 when an investigation by the Archdiocese of New York found credible allegations that McCarrick had sexually abused a teenage altar boy 47 years before while

By MICHAEL MCGOUGH

Los Angeles Times

Michael McGough is the Los Angeles Times' senior editorial writer, based in Washington, D.C.








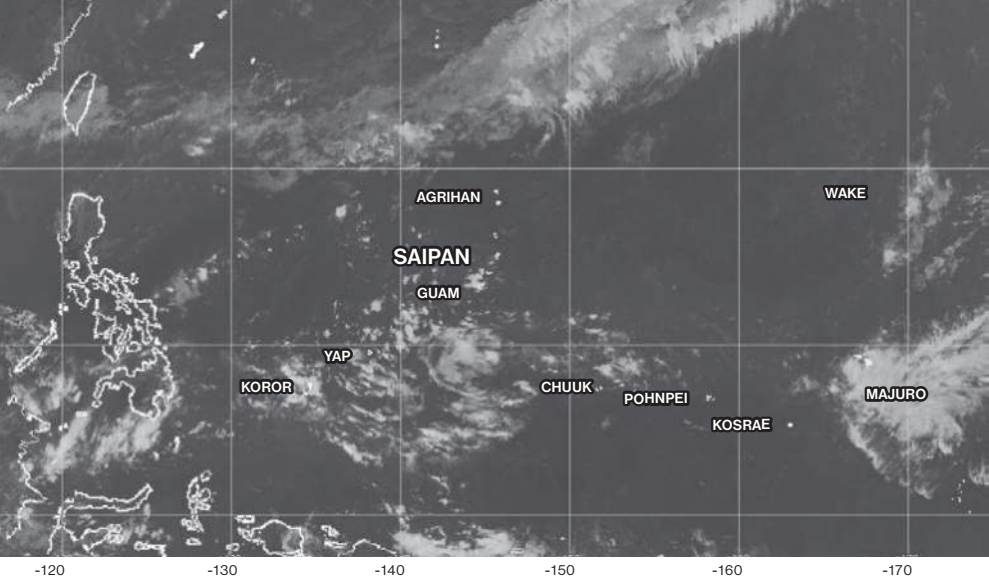
serving as a priest in New York. Pope Francis removed McCarrick from ministry.

So once the church was confronted with a specific and credible claim that McCarrick had abused a minor, it acted—and rightly so. But the report leaves the strong impression that allegations of exploiting young adults weren't treated with the same seriousness.

That's wrong. As the Los Angeles Times said in an editorial last year: "It's increasingly clear that abuse of minors is only one dimension of the crisis" of clerical sexual abuse. Another is the phenomenon, painfully familiar in secular society, of powerful men taking sexual advantage of subordinates, whether they be seminarians or nuns. The McCarrick report should launch the Catholic Church's own #MeToo movement.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
									
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
88°	78°	88°	78°	87°	77°	88°	77°	88°	78°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 8:07 AM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Guam Doppler weather radar shows isolated showers moving through the Marianas Waters, with a few thunderstorms to the west associated with an upper-level low east of Yap. The buoys reveal combined seas of 5 to 6 feet, composed of an east-northeast trade-wind swell and a north swell from winter storms that moved off Japan.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.


- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
 - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20



seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235.3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:19 AM	5:44 PM
Tuesday	6:19 AM	5:44 PM
Wednesday	6:20 AM	5:43 PM
Thursday	6:20 AM	5:43 PM
Friday	6:21 AM	5:43 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	7:04 AM	6:45 PM	-
Tuesday	8:09 AM	7:42 PM	-
Wednesday	9:13 AM	8:43 PM	-
Thursday	10:14 AM	9:43 PM	-
Friday	11:09 AM	10:41 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	66° / 54°	
Beijing	Sunny	48° / 28°	
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	79° / 73°	
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	83° / 73°	
London	Cloudy	55° / 46°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	73° / 58°	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	90° / 77°	
Melbourne	Rain	64° / 55°	
Miami	Mostly Sunny	79° / 71°	
New York	Mostly Sunny	50° / 46°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	54° / 41°	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	52° / 37°	
Busan	Partly Cloudy	55° / 36°	
Rome	Cloudy	61° / 46°	
Salem	Mostly Sunny	63° / 44°	
San Francisco	Rain	58° / 50°	
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	45° / 34°	
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	57° / 43°	
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	53° / 43°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
2:04 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.58	
8:49 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.96	
2:26 PM	LOW TIDE	0.91	
7:35 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.98	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2020

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:55am	7:35am	1, 4, 6	UA174	5:10am	5:51am	1, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:55am	9:50pm	1 via Guam	UA184/174	10:40pm	5:51am+1	3, 5 via Guam
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	8:00pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5	UA184	10:40pm	4:30am+1	1, 3, 5

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2020

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1208	14:00	14:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1211	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
ROTA TO GUAM				2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

AMP Visitor Center reopens

Following guidance from the White House, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and state and local public health authorities, the American Memorial Park is reopening the Visitor Center. The National Park Service, which operates the park, is working servicewide with federal, state, and local public health authorities to closely monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and using a phased approach to increase access on a park-by-park basis.

Beginning today, Nov. 16, 2020, the Visitor Center will open three days a week—Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 9am to 4pm. In addition, the Micro Beach pavilion, tennis court and softball field continue to be available for use on a first-come, first-serve basis

and in accordance with local public health guidance. At this time the Pacific Historic Parks bookstore and Visitor Center theater will remain closed.

“The health and safety of our visitors, employees, volunteers, and partners continues to be paramount. At American Memorial Park, our operational approach continues to be centered on examining each facility function and service to ensure those operations comply with current public health guidance and are regularly monitored. We continue to work closely with the NPS Office of Public Health using CDC guidance to ensure public areas and workspaces are safe and clean,” according to an NPS statement Friday.

“A safe and enjoyable park experience begins at home.

The NPS encourages visitors to plan their visit by checking the park’s website and social media for current conditions and travel tips. The CDC has offered guidance to help people recreating in parks and open spaces prevent the spread of infectious diseases. We ask the public to be our partner in recreating responsibly, by following CDC and state and local guidance, social distancing, and wearing a face covering when social distance cannot be maintained,” the NPS statement added.

Details and updates on park operations will continue to be posted on the NPS website, www.nps.gov/amme, and social media channels, @AmericanMemorialPark. Updates about NPS operations will be posted on www.nps.gov/coronavirus. **(PR)**



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DPL resumes issuing Managaha camping permits

The Department of Public Lands resumed issuing last Nov. 12, 2020, all Managaha Island camping permits. Due to the limited resources available on Managaha outside of operating hours, only 25 people will be allowed to camp on the island per night for the health and safety of all campers. Application to camp: <https://www.dpl.gov.mp/DPL/Lease%20&%20Permit/Application%20to%20Camp%20in%20Managaha.pdf> **(PR)**

[dpl.gov.mp/DPL/Lease%20&%20Permit/Application%20to%20Camp%20in%20Managaha.pdf](https://www.dpl.gov.mp/DPL/Lease%20&%20Permit/Application%20to%20Camp%20in%20Managaha.pdf) **(PR)**

Free online session on legal issues in caring for elderly family members

Those caring for elderly family members will have an opportunity to learn about important legal aspects that they should consider. The Guam/Micronesia Geriatrics

Workforce Enhancement Program at the University of Guam’s School of Health will be hosting a live Zoom session on this topic at 6pm today, Nov. 16.

Public Guardian Marcelene Santos will present on legal aspects including power of attorney, guardianship, advanced directives, and living wills.

The session is free and open to the public. Individuals can register at <https://bit.ly/Li111620>. **(PR)**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp

Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>

Notice of Re-opening of the Distribution of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)-COVID Program Pre-Applications

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) wishes to announce the re-opening of the distribution of pre-applications of the ESG-COVID program made possible through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. As stated on the Office of the Governor’s Press Release, dated July 19, 2020, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded the CNMI a total allocation of \$1,090,630 in ESG-COVID funds to provide financial assistance for CNMI households, specifically for rental assistance, rental arrears, utility allowance, and security and utility deposits. The assistance period is for a total of (12) months and will be on a first come, first serve basis. NMHC has allocated 25% of the grant for the elderly and disabled population. The purpose of the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG)-COVID program is to assist individuals and families quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis or homelessness, as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Eligibility Criteria

- Must be impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic (e.g. furloughed, reduction of hours, living in substandard conditions which poses an increased risk of exposure to the disease, etc.)
- Must be a U.S. citizen or qualified alien
- Must meet the income limits (less than 50% of the area median income). See FY 2020 HUD income limits below
- Must be literally homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless and have no other housing options

Application Steps

- Pick up a pre-application at the NMHC Offices on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota or print an application made available on the NMHC website at www.nmhc.gov.net.
Link: https://nmhc.gov.net/resources/files/2020%20ESG%20Pre-application%20V2%20updated%2006_29_20.pdf
- Once the pre-application is completed and submitted to the NMHC Offices (you may submit at the front office or in the Drop Box located in front of the building), the case workers will assess the pre-application and determine whether the applicant is eligible for the program. If the applicant is eligible, the case worker will schedule an appointment and immediately notify the applicant on the date and time of intake. If an applicant is deemed ineligible, a notification will be sent to the applicant.
- The case worker will inform the eligible applicant of the next steps once the application process has been completed.

If you have already applied for the ESG-COVID program, the NMHC case workers are currently assessing your pre-applications and you will be contacted for the next steps. On August 21, 2020, NMHC stopped taking pre-applications in order to conduct the screening of a significant number of pre-applications and also to conduct case management. **NMHC is reopening the pre-application process. You may pick up an HESG pre-application at the NMHC, Saipan Central Office, Rota Field Office, and Tinian Field office starting October 28, 2020. The distribution of pre-applications will end on November 30, 2020.** Should you have any questions or need special accommodations, please contact Zenie Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director, Tricia Tenorio, Planner, or Sweetielyn Sokau, Planning Assistant, at the 234-6866/7689/9447.

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency”



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-19-028 Revision No.2

REPLACEMENT OF SADOG TASI WWTP CLARIFIER

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Replacement of Sadog Tasi WWTP Clarifier in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The intent of the contract is for the Contractor to provide all labor, equipment, supplies and materials necessary to complete the scope of work which consists of; installation of a new circular clarifier mechanism and effluent launder box, construction of a sloped concrete floor, and other miscellaneous features. The work shall include; the dewatering and cleaning of aeration basin #3 and the clarifier, routing process flow and maintaining conditions during the construction period, and returning process flow from the aeration basin to the clarifier. The work shall be completed with minimal disruption to the daily operation of the Sadog Tasi Waste Water Treatment Plant. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set. If you have purchased this IFB before you do not have to repurchase but you would need to register with our office to receive a package.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **October 29, 2020 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-19-028, Replacement of the Sadog Tasi Clarifier Revision No. 2” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) November 17, 2020, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on November 5, 2020** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Western Knudsen, P.E., CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer and to CUC P&S, Senior Administrative Technician, Christie L. Sablan at christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-21-003

A&E DESIGN SERVICES FOR WEST SAN JOSE HOMESTEAD (TINIAN) WATERLINE PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for A&E Design Services for West San Jose Homestead (Tinian) Waterline Project.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one RFP package set.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies of the Proposal & One (1) original and five (5) hard copies of the Cost Proposal must be submitted in separate sealed envelopes marked “CUC-RFP-21-003, A&E Design Services for West San Jose Homestead (Tinian) Waterline Project”, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than November 25, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers who submit proposal determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from the proposal submitted by competing proposers.

All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the RFP requirements in the course of proposer’s preparation of the RFP under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the RFP under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 9, 2020** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Larry Manacop, CUC Acting Water/Wastewater Chief Engineer via email address larry.manacop@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, Administrative Technician Senior, via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said RFP, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Business

FOR BUSINESS OWNERS WITH COVID

Virus is just one struggle

NEW YORK (AP)—When Chris Hyland caught the coronavirus, his ordeal went beyond being sick and exhausted—he couldn’t help his business partners manage the virus’s impact on their company just as the outbreak was sweeping across the world.

Hyland and his wife and children became ill in early March. Customers were cutting back orders at his employee management software business, The Happiness Index. Revenue was plunging and the London-based company was forced to furlough 12 of 20 staffers.

Hyland tried to handle the crisis while also taking care of himself and his family but was so sick he had to hand off his responsibilities to his partners.

“I had to just lie in bed and accept it and turn the laptop off for a week,” Hyland says. It took a month before he was feeling like himself again.

When small business owners are diagnosed with the coronavirus, being sick is just one of their problems. Like Hyland, they can be too ill to shepherd their companies through the crises the pandemic created, a painful situation for people used to being their enterprises’ driving forces.

Some owners deal with the virus’s aftereffects months after recovering. Some have been afraid to let clients and customers know they’ve been ill—they fear their companies will be stigmatized.

Suffering through the virus has changed some owners’ perspectives about the balance between work and personal time, for their employees and themselves. Some have established more liberal policies about time off and after-hours emailing. Some are beefing up employee health benefits.

The virus left Hyland with existential questions.

“You start thinking, ‘what would happen if I hadn’t made it? What if I’m alive but not up to work?’” he says.

Hyland recently increased his individual life insurance, and he and his partners are considering key person insurance, which helps companies survive after losing an owner or top employee.

Some owners have had to ask employees to run the company. Laurina Esposito and her business partner were diagnosed with the virus in early September. Esposito, owner of Espo Resto, a Los Angeles-based company that restores Porsches, was very ill for three weeks. She did as much work as she could on her laptop in bed, but at times was too exhausted.

“There was a point where I had to put all of my trust in the people in the shop,” Esposito says. They kept the company running until she was back on her feet.

Warren Cohn’s relatively mild bout with COVID was complicated by the fact his wife and two children ages 3 years and 3½ months also came down with the virus at the end of March. He had to turn the management of his two marketing firms over to his co-owners.

Nation

Judge: DHS head didn’t have authority to suspend DACA

NEW YORK (AP)—A federal judge in New York ruled Saturday that Acting Department of Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf assumed his position unlawfully, a determination that invalidated Wolf’s suspension of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, which shields young people from deportation.

“DHS failed to follow the order of succession as it was lawfully designated,” U.S. District Judge Nicholas Garaufis wrote. “Therefore, the actions taken by purported Acting Secretaries, who were not properly in their roles according to the lawful order of succession, were taken without legal authority.”

Wolf issued a memorandum in July effectively suspending DACA, pending review by DHS. A month earlier, the U.S. Supreme Court had ruled that President Donald Trump failed to follow rule-making procedures when he tried to end the program, but the justices kept a window open for him to try again.

About 650,000 people are part of DACA, which allows young immigrants who were brought to the country as children to legally work and shields them from deportation.

Republicans face court setbacks, Trump law firm steps down

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Republicans suffered setbacks to court challenges over the presidential election in three battleground states on Friday while a law firm that came under fire for its work for President Donald Trump’s campaign withdrew from a major Pennsylvania case.

The legal blows began when a federal appeals court rejected an effort to block about 9,300 mail-in ballots that arrived after Election Day in Pennsylvania. The judges noted the “vast disruption” and “unprecedented challenges” facing the nation during the COVID-19 pandemic as they upheld the three-day extension.



Chief U.S. Circuit Judge D. Brooks Smith said the panel kept in mind “a proposition indisputable in our democratic process: that the lawfully cast vote of every citizen must count.”

The ruling involves a Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision to accept mail-in ballots through Friday, Nov. 6, citing the pandemic and concerns about postal service delays.

Republicans have also asked the U.S. Supreme Court to review the issue. However, there are not enough late-arriving ballots to change the results in Pennsylvania, given President-elect Joe Biden’s lead. The Democratic former vice president won the state by about 60,000 votes out of about 6.8 million cast.

The Trump campaign or Republican surrogates have filed more than 15 legal challenges in Pennsylvania as they seek to reclaim the state’s 20 electoral votes, but have so far offered no evidence of any widespread voter fraud.

A Philadelphia judge found none as he refused late Friday to reject about 8,300 mail-in ballots there. The campaign has pursued similar litigation in other battleground states, with little to show for it.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 21-004

Opening Date: October 30, 2020
Closing Date: November 19, 2020

POSITION TITLE: DEPARTMENT: LOCATION: ANNUAL SALARY: CONTRACT: POSITION(S):	Assistant Petroleum Compliance Manager “AM” Petroleum Compliance Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA \$96,657.60 per annum, Exempt / Ungraded 2 Year Contract One (1)
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The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Petroleum Compliance Manager (aka Technical Manager for Oil) or his/her designee.

Duties:

- Position shall be primarily responsible for oversight of projects and compliance activities including, but not limited to, oil management in support of the Stipulated Order (SO) of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- The AM shall assist the Petroleum and Compliance Manager in overseeing all oil spill prevention, preparedness and response operations, compliance activities and project deliverables on a daily basis, as required by stipulated order.
- The AM shall also function as the Acting Petroleum Compliance Manager during the absence or non-availability of the Petroleum Compliance Manager and will be the person responsible for maintaining regular contact with EPA staff regarding section 311 Clean Water Act compliance, including representation in the US Federal court and before other regulatory agencies.
- The Executive Director may delegate authority to the AM during the absence of the Petroleum Compliance Manager including authority to make decisions for the management and operations of oil related items required by stipulated order. These examples of duties are not exhaustive, and the incumbent may be required to undertake other duties of similar level and responsibility.
- Additional projects for power generation infrastructure development may be requested of AM directly, by Executive Director.

Minimum Requirements:

Education: A Bachelor's degree in Engineering or other natural science as Chemistry, Biology or Environmental Studies. 10 years of project administration and management, including overseeing work of contractors and company staff in an executive management position with proven management and communication skills. A minimum of three (3) years in oil spill, prevention, preparedness, and response. Work in environmental assessment as related to power plant operations and extensive knowledge of BECC and EPA regulations. 5 years of experience in preparing bid documents or request for quotations and proposals. 5 years of experience in contract negotiation and preparation.

Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Supervisory principles, practices and techniques (based on assignment); Project management principles; Contract management principles; Procurement practices; Engineering principles related to utilities and power generation; Safe work practices and procedures; Customer service principles; Environmental compliance principles; Modern office technology.

Skills in: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Supervising, monitoring, training and evaluating staff (based on assignment); Prioritizing and assigning work activities and projects (based on assignment); Reviewing and evaluating contract work, plans and specifications; Monitoring contractual compliance related to budget, schedules, and quality; Evaluating contract proposals and providing award recommendations; Serving as liaison with management and regulatory agencies; Identifying issues and presenting recommendations; Preparing scope of work documentation for proposal requests; Preparing status and progress reports; Providing required data and updates for regulatory purposes; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Licensing:

- o Valid CNMI Driver's License with appropriate class.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: You may submit your completed CUC Employment Application and resume at the Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, from Monday to Friday, 7:30am – 4:30pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota can drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration office. Application and resume can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JOB OPENING: ACCOUNTANT EUCON INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

The Accountant, receiving general guidance from the school’s Finance Manager:

- performs the operational functions of the school’s accounting office in planning, organizing, and conducting all accounting operations and the school’s administrative internal Audit
- ensures timely accounting reporting to the Finance Manager
- adheres to accepted accounting principles, and
- performs complex accounting duties with a high level of independence and professional discretion.

Must have a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy degree with at least 5 years of progressive work experience as an Accountant.

Work Location: Eucon International School, Kulales Place, Chalan Pale Arnold Road, Gualo Rai Mail Address: P.O. Box 500087, Saipan, MP 96950
E-Mail address: hr@eucon.edu • Tel: 234-3203



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP21-CHCC/BUSINESS OFFICE-001

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 16, 2020 • TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)



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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY



TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference Room.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY

a. Call to Order

b. Roll Call

c. Adoption of Agenda

d. Adoption of Minutes

1) August 31, 2020 – Regular Meeting

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. REPORTS

a. Chair's Report

b. Executive Director's Report

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Licensing Matters

1. Bridge Investment Group LLC. – Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Casino License Fee

2. Matsui Asia Ltd.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VII. OFFICIAL/MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

*Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

*Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

World

ASEAN, China, other partners set world's biggest trade pact

China and 14 other countries have agreed to set up the world's largest trading bloc, encompassing nearly a third of all economic activity, in a deal many in Asia are hoping will help hasten a recovery from the shocks of the pandemic.

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, or RCEP, is to be signed virtually on Sunday on the sidelines of the annual summit of the 10-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

"After eight years of negotiating with blood, sweat and tears, we have finally come to the moment where we will seal the RCEP Agreement," Malaysia's trade minister, Mohamed Azmin Ali, said in a statement.

The deal sends a signal that RCEP countries have chosen

"to open our markets instead of resorting to protectionist measures during this difficult time," he said.

The accord will take already low tariffs on trade between member countries still lower, over time, and is less comprehensive than an 11-nation trans-Pacific trade deal that President Donald Trump pulled out of shortly after taking office.

It includes the 10 nations belonging to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand, but not the United States. Officials said the accord leaves the door open for India, which dropped out due to fierce domestic opposition to its market-opening requirements, to rejoin the bloc.

It is not expected to go as far as the European Union in integrating member economies but does build on existing free trade arrangements.

The deal has powerful symbolic ramifications, showing that nearly four years after Trump launched his "America First" policy of forging trade deals with individual countries, Asia remains committed to multi-nation efforts toward freer trade that are seen as a

formula for future prosperity.

Ahead of Sunday's RCEP "special summit" meeting, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga said he would firmly convey his government's support for "broadening a free and fair economic zone, including a possibility of India's future return to the deal, and hope to gain support from the other countries."

The accord is also a coup for China, by far the biggest

market in the region with more than 1.3 billion people, allowing Beijing to cast itself as a "champion of globalization and multilateral cooperation" and giving it greater influence over rules governing regional trade, Gareth Leather, senior Asian economist for Capital Economics, said in a report.

Now that Trump's opponent Joe Biden has been declared president-elect, the region is

watching to see how U.S. policy on trade and other issues will evolve.

Analysts are skeptical Biden will push hard to rejoin the trans-Pacific trade pact or to roll back many of the U.S. trade sanctions imposed on China by the Trump administration given widespread frustration with Beijing's trade and human rights records and accusations of spying and technology theft. (AP)

Nobel UN food agency warns 2021 will be worse than 2020

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The head of the World Food Program says the Nobel Peace Prize has given the U.N. agency a spotlight and megaphone to warn world leaders that next year is going to be worse than this year, and without billions of dollars "we are going to have famines of biblical proportions in 2021."

David Beasley said in an interview with The Associated Press that the Norwegian Nobel Committee was looking at the work the agency does every day in conflicts, disasters and refugee camps, often putting staffers' lives at risk to feed millions of hungry people—but also to send "a message to the world that it's getting worse out there ... (and) that our hardest work is yet to come."

"It was so timely because we've been fighting to get above the choir," Beasley said of last month's award, pointing to the news being dominated by the U.S. elections and the COVID-19 pandemic, and the difficulty of getting global attention focused on "the travesty that we're facing around the world."

"So this was really a gift from above," Beasley said, recalling the surprise and delight of WFP's 20,000 staffers worldwide, and his own shock at being interrupted during a meeting in Niger in Africa's Sahel region with the news.

Beasley recalled his warning to the U.N. Security Council in April that as the world was dealing with the coronavirus pandemic, it was also "on the brink of a hunger pandemic" that could lead to "multiple famines of bibli-

cal proportions" within a few months if immediate action wasn't taken.

"We were able to avert it in 2020 ... because the world leaders responded with money, stimulus packages, deferral of debt," he said.

Now, Beasley said, COVID-19 is surging again, economies are continuing to deteriorate particularly in low- and middle-income countries, and there is another wave of lockdowns and shutdowns.

But he said the money that was available in 2020 isn't going to be available in 2021, so he has been using the Nobel to meet leaders virtually and in person, talk to parliaments, and give speeches to sensitize those with power to "this tragedy that we are facing -- crises that really are going to be extraordinary over the next, who knows, 12 to 18 months."

"Everybody now wants to meet with the Nobel Peace Prize winner," Beasley said, explaining he now gets 45 minutes instead of 15 minutes with leaders and is able to go into depth and explain how bad things are going to be next year and how leaders are going to have to prioritize programs. "And the response has really been good," he said.

"I'm telling them you're not going to have enough money to fund all the projects you historically fund," he said.

"Those are important things," Beasley said, but he likened the upcoming crisis to the Titanic saying "right now, we really need to focus on icebergs, and icebergs are famine, starvation, destabilization and migration."

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE





Margarita Sablan Camacho

Fondly known as "Adig/ Auntie Adig"

FEBRUARY 03, 1935 - NOVEMBER 09, 2020

In her new life, she now joins her:
Father/Mother: †Luis Taimanao Camacho & †Ramona Reyes Sablan

Brothers/Sisters/In-Laws:
 †Susana Camacho & †Juan S. Villagomez
 †Vicente Sablan & †Estefania Flores Camacho
 †Antonia S. Camacho
 †Albert Sablan & †Primitiva LG. Camacho/
 †Rosario Arriola Camacho
 †Mariana Camacho & †Francisco Deleon Guerrero
 †Ricardo T. Borja

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:
Brothers & Sisters:
 Trinidad Camacho Borja and family
 Froilan Sablan & Maria Smith Camacho and family
 Dr. Carlos Sablan & Lourdes (Winnie) P. Camacho and family
 Benita Camacho & Jerry Kortz and family

She is also survived by numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, and godchildren.

Daily mass of intention is being offered at 6:00 a.m. at Kristo Rai Church.

On Tuesday, November 17, 2020, visitation will be at Borja Funeral Home from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The Funeral Liturgy Outside of Mass will be at 11:00 a.m.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Thank You for your thoughts and prayers.

The Family



Health & Wellness

This advertorial
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Tan Siu Lin
Foundation



Debunking COVID-19 myths

A man wearing a facemask plays baseball at Pan Pacific Park amid the coronavirus pandemic on Nov. 6, 2020, in Los Angeles, California.

Chances are you've heard about a food, drug or other method that claims to prevent, treat or cure coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). But while it might be tempting to use a questionable product or method to stay healthy during the pandemic, it's extremely unlikely to work and might cause serious harm.

COVID-19 treatment and prevention myths

While researchers are studying many COVID-19 vaccines and treatments, none has been fully tested for safety or effectiveness. Any claims that a medication, herbal supplement or other substance can prevent infection with the COVID-19 virus or cure COVID-19 are bogus. Likewise, misinformation continues to circulate about ways to treat COVID-19.

Here are some of the substances and products that have been touted as ways to prevent infection with the COVID-19 virus or treat COVID-19—and what the science says:

Pneumonia and flu vaccines. There is currently no vaccine to prevent the COVID-19 virus. Vaccines against pneumonia, such as the pneumococcal vaccine, don't provide protection against the COVID-19 virus. The flu shot also won't protect you against the COVID-19 virus.

Saline nasal wash. There is no evidence that rinsing your nose with saline protects against infection with the COVID-19 virus.

High temperatures. Exposure to the sun or to temperatures higher than 77 F (25 C) doesn't prevent the

COVID-19 virus or cure COVID-19. You can get the COVID-19 virus in sunny, hot and humid weather. Taking a hot bath also can't prevent you from catching the COVID-19 virus. Your normal body temperature remains the same, regardless of the temperature of your bath or shower.

Low temperatures. Cold weather and snow also can't kill the COVID-19 virus.

Antibiotics. Antibiotics kill bacteria, not viruses. However, people hospitalized due to COVID-19 might be given antibiotics because they also have developed a bacterial infection.

Alcohol and chlorine spray. Spraying alcohol or chlorine on your body won't kill viruses that have entered your body. These substances also can harm your eyes, mouth and clothes.

Drinking alcohol. Drinking alcohol doesn't protect you from the COVID-19 virus.

Garlic. There's no evidence that eating garlic protects against infection with the COVID-19 virus.

Ultraviolet (UV) disinfection lamp. Ultraviolet light can be used as a disinfectant on surfaces. But don't use a UV lamp to sterilize your hands or other areas of your body. UV radiation can cause skin irritation.

5G mobile networks. Avoiding exposure to or use of 5G networks doesn't prevent infection with the COVID-19 virus. Viruses can't travel on radio waves and mobile networks. The COVID-19 virus is spreading in many countries that lack 5G mobile networks.

Disinfectants. When applied to surfaces, disinfectants can help kill germs such as the COVID-19 virus. However, don't use disinfectants on your body, inject them into your body or swallow them. Disinfectants can irritate the skin and be toxic if swal-

lowed or injected into the body.

Supplements. Many people take vitamin C, vitamin D, zinc, green tea or echinacea to boost their immune systems. While these supplements might affect your immune function, research hasn't shown that they can prevent you from getting sick. The supplement colloidal silver, which has been marketed as a COVID-19 treatment, isn't considered safe or effective for treating any disease.

Focus on facts

In the U.S., the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has been working to remove misleading products from store shelves and online marketplaces. In the meantime, remember that testimonials aren't a substitute for scientific evidence. Also, few diseases can be treated quickly, so beware of quick fixes. A miracle cure that claims to contain a secret ingredient is likely a hoax.

If you have a question about a method for treating COVID-19 or preventing infection with the COVID-19 virus, talk to your doctor. To ask a question about a COVID-19 medication, you can call your local pharmacist or the FDA's Division of Drug Information.

Effective COVID-19 prevention tips

There are steps you can take reduce your risk of infection. The World Health Organization (WHO) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend following these precautions for avoiding COVID-19:

Avoid large events and mass gatherings.

Avoid close contact (within about 6 feet, or 2 meters) with anyone who is sick or has symptoms.

Stay home as much as possible and keep distance between yourself and others (within about 6 feet, or 2 meters) if COVID-19 is spreading in your community, especially if you have a higher risk of serious illness. Keep in mind some people may have COVID-19 and spread it to others, even if they don't have symptoms or don't know they have COVID-19.

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Cover your face with a cloth face covering in public spaces, such as the grocery store, where it's difficult to avoid close contact with others, especially if you're in an area with ongoing community spread. Only use nonmedical cloth masks—surgical masks and N95 respirators should be reserved for health care providers.

Cover your mouth and nose with your elbow or a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw away the used tissue and wash your hands or use hand sanitizer.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

Avoid sharing dishes, glasses, bedding and other household items if you're sick.

Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces daily.

Stay home from work, school and public areas if you're sick, unless you're going to get medical care. Avoid taking public transportation if you're sick.

Before traveling, check the CDC and WHO websites to look for health advisories that may be in place. (*Mayo Clinic News Network/TNS*)

Mayo Clinic News Network is your source for health news, advances in research and wellness tips.

Stressed out? Try this

Taking care of yourself, your friends, and your family can help you cope with stress. Helping others cope with their stress can also make your community stronger.



Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories, including social media. Hearing about the pandemic repeatedly can be upsetting.



Take care of your body. Take deep breaths, stretch, or meditate. Try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals, exercise regularly, get plenty of sleep, and avoid alcohol and drugs.



Make time to unwind. Try to do some other activities you enjoy.



Connect with others. Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling.

Life & Style

Tunnel plan near Stonehenge gets UK government consent

LONDON (AP)—The British government went against the recommendations of planning officials Thursday, approving controversial plans for a road tunnel to be built near the prehistoric monument of Stonehenge in southern England.

The project, which is aimed at trying to ease traffic along a stretch of road widely prone to gridlock, has been touted for decades but has faced vociferous opposition from local residents as well as archaeologists.

The A303 highway, which is a popular route for motorists traveling to and from the southwest of England, is often severely congested around the single-lane section of road near Stonehenge. As part of widespread improvements, a two-mile tunnel will be built that will effectively remove the sight and sound of traffic passing the site, and cut journey times.

The decision by Transport Secretary Grant Shapps goes against the recommendation



AP
In this Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2013 file photo, visitors take photographs of the world heritage site of Stonehenge, England.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Suspect arrested in attack on actor Rick Moranis

NEW YORK (AP)—A New York man was arrested Saturday in connection with an unprovoked assault against Rick Moranis that occurred as the 67-year-old actor was walking near Central Park in October. New York City police said 35-year-old Marquis Ventura, whom authorities listed as homeless, was arrested Saturday afternoon. It wasn't known if Ventura had retained an attorney who could comment. Moranis, known for his work in the 1980s sketch comedy series "Second City Television" and roles in movies such as "Ghostbusters," "Spaceballs" and "Honey I Shrunk the Kids," was walking on a sidewalk near Central Park on the morning of Oct. 1 when he was attacked. Video released by police showed a man wearing a black "I (heart) NY"

sweatshirt hit Moranis with a sucker punch and knock him to the ground. Police didn't identify Moranis at the time, but Moranis's representative, Troy Bailey, confirmed the actor had been attacked. Police characterized it as a "random, unprovoked assault."

Britain's Prince Charles celebrates 72nd birthday

LONDON (AP)—Britain's Prince Charles celebrated his 72nd birthday Saturday following an eventful year that saw him contract the coronavirus and his son Prince Harry step down from official royal duties. Gun salutes would normally be fired from London's Green Park and the Tower of London for the heir to the throne's birthday, but officials said the traditional ceremonies would not take place this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Charles' eldest son, Prince Wil-

liam, and his wife, Kate, were among those wishing him a happy birthday on social media. The royal family's official Twitter account posted a photo of Charles as a baby sitting on Queen Elizabeth II's knee, while the account of Charles and his wife, Camilla, shared a photo of the prince dressed in a kilt and smiling to the camera. Charles tested positive for the coronavirus in March and self-isolated for a week in Scotland with mild COVID-19 symptoms. He later told Sky News he was lucky to have "got away with it quite lightly."

Memoir by Sen. Tammy Duckworth coming out March 30

NEW YORK (AP)—Sen. Tammy Duckworth has written a memoir, "Every Day Is a Gift," which comes out March 30. Twelve, a Hachette Book Group imprint, announced the deal with Sen. Duckworth on

Thursday, the 16th anniversary of the day she was shot down in a helicopter while serving in Iraq and lost both of her legs. "I am grateful to be able to tell my personal American story with the help of Sean and Twelve," the Illinois Democrat said in a statement, referring to Twelve publisher Sean Desmond. "My life has been filled with unexpected challenges and painful experiences, but also with the rewards that come with service and perseverance." The 52-year-old Duckworth will tell of her life from her childhood in Southeast Asia and Hawaii to her 23 years in the Army to her time in public service. She was elected in 2016 to the U.S. Senate, where she became the first sitting Senator to give birth. Over the past year, she was mentioned as a possible running mate for Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden, who ended up choosing Sen. Kamala Harris of California.

of the Planning Inspectorate, which warned of "permanent" and "irreversible" harm arising from the project, unseen in the site's history.

However, according to the Department for Transport, Shapps was said to be "satisfied that on balance the need case for the development together with the other benefits identified outweigh any harm."

Proponents of the upgrade, which Highways England has estimated will cost 1.7 billion pounds (\$2.2 billion), say it will dramatically ease congestion and eventually help the local environment. The agency expects the fieldwork to start in late spring next year, with the main five-year construction phase expected to start by 2023.

"This transformational scheme will return the Stonehenge landscape towards its original setting and will improve journey times for everyone who travels to and from the southwest," the agency's chief executive, Jim O'Sullivan said.

Opponents of the scheme, who have a six-week window to appeal to Britain's High Court, have for years voiced worries about the potential damage to the environment, wildlife and potential archaeological finds underground.

The Stonehenge Alliance, which has campaigned against the tunnel, said it "deeply regrets" a decision that will be greeted with "shock" around the world.

The group added that the plan will breach the U.K.'s international treaty obligations "not to damage" the World Heritage Site.

Historian, author and broadcaster Tom Holland, who is president of the Stonehenge Alliance, said the group will oppose the "shameful" decision as vigorously as possible.

"The decision to inject a great gash of tarmac and concrete into Britain's most precious prehistoric landscape is one that ranks simultaneously as spendthrift and sacrilegious," he said.

Girlfriend left on sideline at small family wedding

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend of five years calls me his "partner." I care about his family, and they are happy we are together.

His daughter had a small wedding with just a few family members and the wedding party. I sat alone in our room for hours while they took pre-wedding photos. Not a problem. But when no voices were heard, I looked out, and everyone was gone! I texted my partner asking where everyone was. I had heard him walk by our room several times earlier, but he didn't respond. Should I have chased after him, asking to be included?

Before and after the ceremony, the photographer took individual and group photos, as well as the tables, the caterer and venue staff in addition to the family and wedding party. Although I was standing with everyone, no one invited me to join a group photo or take one with my partner. My brother said I should have asked to be included, but I didn't think it was my place. The bride and groom had already decided who they wanted photos of.

One of the groomsmen could tell my feelings were hurt. He came over and sat with me and asked if I was having fun. I did some grunt work for this ceremony, so it would have been nice to have had my presence acknowledged with an official photo, not a selfie. What do you think?

LEFT-OUT LADY IN VIRGINIA

DEAR LADY: The bride and her husband may have been distracted, but your "partner" should have made sure you were included in at least one of the photos. The treatment you received was not only rude and thoughtless, it was also callous. Have there been other occasions in which he has been similarly thoughtless? If you plan to continue this romance, accept that you will have to become more assertive, rather than wait at the mercy of others.

DEAR ABBY: About three years ago, I got into an argument with my sister-in-law because of the verbal abuse she aimed at her children, who were 3 and 10. She swore at them and still puts them down constantly. I finally had enough and told her I didn't want to be around her if she was going to talk to them that way. She told me they were her kids so she could talk to them how she wanted. I haven't spoken to her since.

Now, three years later, I have two boys of my own. She wants to be in their lives, and my in-laws are upset that my husband and I don't want her around them. She has since apologized for her behavior, but neither of us trusts her, and we don't want her influence on our children. Should we accept her apology and spend time with her to appease my husband's family or do what we think is right for our kids?

AVOIDING HER IN NEW YORK

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR AVOIDING HER: Your sister-in-law has apologized. Give her one more chance, and if you catch her berating her children or using foul language in front of your boys, take a giant step backward and do not expose them to her again—or at least until they are old enough to understand that behavior like hers isn't tolerated in your branch of the family and why.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$16 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



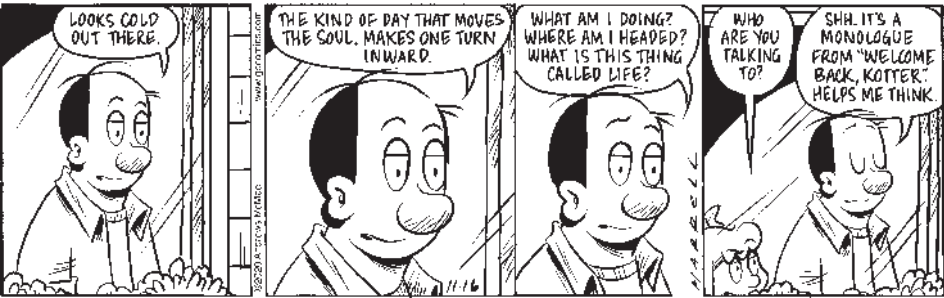
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Bliss
4 Firm belief
9 Check-cashing needs
12 Actor Vigoda
13 Palliative plants
14 Little louse
15 Two-bit
17 FDR project
18 A billion years
19 Glide
21 Brown pigment
24 Pot starter
25 Actress Thurman
26 Prior night
28 November birthstone
31 Red planet
33 Evergreen tree
35 Heap
36 Square dance group

DOWN

38 Restroom, for short
40 Neither mate
41 Roll call reply
43 Consult
45 "Ha! I was right!"
47 Lucy of "Elementary"
48 Parisian pal
49 On-the-house quaff
54 Quarter-back
55 Ham (deli order)
56 Wish undone

DOWN

1 Honey holder
2 Japanese sash
3 Longing
4 The very beginning
5 Popular clothing chain
6 "... grace of God —"
7 High-IQ group
8 With suspicion (Var.)
9 Healthy
10 Prima donna
11 Remain
16 Under-standing
20 Desist
21 Wrestling style
22 Apple computer
23 ISP founded in 1994
27 Sushi fish
29 Oodles
30 Goose egg
32 Burpee buy
34 Perchlike fish
37 Seek, as a prize
39 Cancelled
42 — living (make money)
44 Couple's pronoun
45 "I did it!"
46 Sharif of film
50 Work unit
51 Apr. addressee
52 Fanatic
53 Crucial

Solution time: 26 mins.

Last Friday's Answer 11/16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13						14	
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45	46						47			
48				49		50			51	52 53
54				55					56	
57				58					59	

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kimberly J. Brown, 36; Maggie Gyllenhaal, 43; Lisa Bonet, 53; Marg Helgenberger, 62.

Happy Birthday: Protect your health and your rights. Use the experience you have gained to ensure your safety and well-being. Take the path that feels right, not the one others pressure you to take. Make changes that suit your needs, and be passionate about life and what you have to contribute. Stand tall and do what's right, and you'll reach your goal. Your numbers are 6, 14, 21, 27, 33, 42, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Listen to what others say, question if you have doubts and make changes required for you to live life your way. Make peace of mind your objective. Taking pride in and enjoying what you do is essential. Choose love over discord. *****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Contracts, investments and health concerns will be convoluted. Dig deep, get the facts and be sure before you make a decision that will affect you for years to come. Protect your reputation and position. Avoid joint ventures. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Associations with like-minded people will help you gain ground. A partnership with someone trying to enforce the same beliefs will add strength to your objective. Romance is encouraged, but motives must be honorable. Take the high road, regardless of what others do. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll be fighting a losing battle if you can't see all sides of a situation. Look for innovative

ways to work with the opposition and make a difference. Take control instead of being controlled. Make wise decisions. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take action, get things done and follow through with promises you make. How you conduct personal / professional business will determine what you get in return. Be a leader, not a follower and the outcome will favor you. Romance is featured. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't let emotional problems interfere with your job or ability to make the best decisions. Stay focused on what's essential, and make stability a priority. The changes you bring about will ensure you land on your feet. Fight uncertainty. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Rely on facts, truth and the people who have never let you down. Refuse to give in to unrealistic demands, a lack of moderation and unruly behavior. Separate yourself from people who don't share your values. Focus on peace, love and solidarity. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do things your way. Make life decisions that will encourage peace of mind and gratitude for what you have. Do what's right for you, not what everyone else wants you to do. Change begins with a healthy mind and a passionate heart. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The improvements you make will impress someone you love. Discipline will help you reach your goal. Do what's necessary to outmaneuver anyone trying to take advantage of you. Moderation will be essential to avoid loss. Put the past behind you. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Follow through with your plans. A change you make at home regarding how you earn your living will give you a new lease on life. Embrace what lies ahead and discard what no longer matters. Live in the moment. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Evaluate your life, and consider what you can do to improve your situation. Focus on home, family and finances as well as tidying up unfinished business. A romantic gesture will bring you closer to someone you love. ****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Consider what you want and how best to deal with your responsibilities to achieve a stable and prosperous future. Look for reliable people who can contribute to your plans, and use persuasive tactics to get them on board. **

Birthday Baby: You are curious, ambitious and passionate. You are resourceful and secretive.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		1		9		4				
9			3		8				5	
	3	8	5			6	7			
	4					9	3			
8				2					6	
	5	7					1			
	6	9			1	3	8			
7			4		3				2	
	2			5			6			

Difficulty Level ★

11/16

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

7	2	6	3	9	8	4	5	1
5	4	3	6	1	7	2	9	8
8	1	9	2	5	4	7	6	3
4	9	1	5	7	6	3	8	2
2	7	5	1	8	3	6	4	9
6	3	8	4	2	9	1	7	5
3	8	4	9	6	2	5	1	7
1	6	7	8	3	5	9	2	4
9	5	2	7	4	1	8	3	6

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

EXERCISE ROUTINES

Solution: 7 letters

R	B	B	O	O	T	C	A	M	P	W	S	C	O	N
E	A	A	L	E	G	S	D	R	E	T	I	Y	L	A
P	R	L	R	P	L	A	N	K	H	B	T	G	L	M
E	B	A	U	R	N	R	I	G	O	I	S	N	I	R
T	E	N	U	C	E	B	I	R	L	S	E	I	M	E
I	L	C	E	G	S	E	E	I	B	T	H	N	D	P
T	L	E	I	W	A	B	K	A	E	C	N	A	U	S
I	S	M	T	A	I	O	V	M	L	P	O	U	E	S
O	E	U	R	B	M	T	U	O	L	L	O	R	R	E
N	P	M	A	R	M	S	G	N	I	D	I	R	T	S
S	U	N	H	U	I	N	E	M	O	D	B	A	O	S
P	D	O	S	T	N	I	O	J	Y	U	R	P	N	A
S	M	C	S	E	G	D	I	R	B	U	A	E	L	
E	L	C	Y	C	T	N	W	O	D	L	O	O	C	
E	L	L	I	P	T	I	C	A	L					

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Abdomen, Aerobic, Arms, Balance, Ball, Bands, Barbells, Barre, Bike, Boot Camp, Bridges, Cardiovascular, Chest, Classes,Cooldown, Curls, Cycle, Dance, Elliptical, Gym, Home, Joints, Legs, Lunges, Mat, Mobility, Muscle, Plank, Pull, Regimen, Repetitions, Rollout, Running, Situps, Step, Striding, Superman, Swimming, Tone, Treadmill, Warmup, Weights

Last Friday's Answer: Cleaners
Purchase WONDERWORD books in time for the holidays!
Visit WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

Dustin Johnson seizes control at Masters

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP)—Dustin Johnson began his assault on Augusta National with a 5-iron for a tap-in eagle, and he never relented until he matched the 54-hole record at the Masters and built a four-shot lead to put himself in prime position for another major.

Johnson has been in this position before, and he plans to lean on his experience.

Not from the 82 he shot at Pebble Beach in the 2010 U.S. Open. Not the three-putt from 12 feet on a bumpy 18th green that cost him at Chambers Bay. Not even the one-shot lead he lost three months ago at Harding Park. They were among four times he had at least a share of the 54-hole lead in a major without converting.

He's talking about the last three days at Augusta National. It's been a masterful performance.

"If I can play like I did today, I think it will break that streak," Johnson said Saturday. "Tomorrow, it's just 18 holes of golf. I need to go out and play solid. I feel like I'm swinging really well. If I can just continue to give myself a lot of looks at birdie, I think I'll have a good day."

A third round that began with 10 players separated by one shot turned into a one-man show.

The No. 1 player in the world looked every bit the part with a 7-under 65, pulling away with the eagle and two birdies in the opening four holes, nearly holing a wedge from the seventh fairway, handling the par 5s on the back nine with two-putt birdies and going the last 30 holes without a bogey.

He was at 16-under 200, matching the 54-hole record Jordan Spieth set in 2015 when he won the Masters by four shots over Phil Mickelson and Justin Rose.

The cast of challengers are not nearly as experienced.

Two of them are Masters rookies. Sungjae Im, the supreme ball-striker from South Korea who won his first PGA Tour title two weeks before the COVID-19 pandemic shut down golf in the spring, birdied the last hole for 68. Abraham Ancer of Mexico saved par on the 18th for a 69.

Joining them at 12-under 204 was Cameron Smith of Australia, who had 12 straight pars before running off three straight birdies and then closing with three scrambling pars for a 69.

"He's been there before multiple times, and No. 1 in the world," Ancer said. "I think he's right where he wants to be. We know that we have to go low, and that's it. It's very simple. If DJ goes



AP
Dustin Johnson prepares to putt on the 15th green during the third round of the Masters, Saturday, Nov. 14, 2020, in Augusta, Ga.

going to get a little bit sore, which I definitely am."

Woods faced similarly long and physically demanding days at last year's Masters, which he won for his 15th major championship, but throughout this third round he was spotted gingerly bending over to pick his ball from the hole and moving slowly. He explained that marathon days like Saturday are going to take a toll.

"I can walk all day," he said. "The hard part is bending and twisting. I think that's part of the game, though, and so that's always been the challenge with my back issues and I guess will always continue to be."

Woods made just three birdies—compared to two bogeys—over the course of his 26 holes on Day 3.

Ailing DeChambeau

After struggling to make the cut at the Masters, Bryson DeChambeau said he's just not feeling well.

He's not sure what the problem is, but he did get tested for COVID-19 again just to make sure that wasn't the issue.

It came back negative.

DeChambeau, who was the betting favorite to win the Masters after a dominating triumph at the U.S. Open, did manage to shoot a 3-under 69 in the third round Saturday.

But that left him a whopping 13 shots behind Johnson, with no chance of claiming a second major title in 2020.

"Not good, to say the least," DeChambeau said after finishing up his second round Saturday morning, before heading back out to play the third. "As I kept going through the round, I started getting a little dizzy. I don't know what was going on, a little something weird."

DeChambeau played 12 holes in the second round Friday before play was halted by darkness. He then got tested to make sure he didn't have the illness caused by the coronavirus.

"I had to do the right thing and make sure there was nothing more serious than that," he said. "I don't know what it is or what happened, but these past couple days, I've felt really, really odd and just not 100%."

DeChambeau, who is capable of hitting drives approaching 400 yards, raised eyebrows when he said he considered par at Augusta National to be 67 instead of 72.

The bulked-up player hasn't lived up his boasts.

out there and plays really solid like today, it's going to be pretty much impossible to catch him. Whatever has to be done out there has to be pretty special."

Still, there is enormous pressure on Johnson because of his history. He has not converted two 54-hole leads, nor has he won at two majors where he shared the 54-hole lead. His only major was the 2016 U.S.

Open when he rallied from four shots behind at Oakmont.

"Anyone with a four-shot lead is expected to win," Smith said. "There's going to be plenty of boys firing tomorrow."

Attacking flags is what Augusta National has allowed in November, with rain earlier in the week and warm, calm conditions

that have kept the turf soft and vulnerable.



Tired Tiger

Tiger Woods' alarm sounded at 3:30am ET on Saturday to start a day that stretched more than 12 hours for the five-time Masters champion.

Because of Thursday's weather delay at Augusta Na-

tional, Woods played 26 holes on Saturday. It was the kind of test that's proven to be a challenge for the 44-year-old with multiple back surgeries.

"I had my day off yesterday, which was nice," he said following a third-round 72 that left outside the Top 20. "Today was not the case. We've been at it for quite some time. It's just part of the deal. If you have long days like this, I'm

Tokyo Olympics may allow foreign fans; there will be rules

TOKYO (AP)—Next year's re-scheduled Tokyo Olympics will be like no other, particularly for non-Japanese fans if they are allowed to enter in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tokyo organizing committee CEO Toshiro Muto, after a meeting Thursday about infection countermeasures, confirmed for the first time that a limited number of non-Japanese fans may be allowed to attend.

But there will be some stringent guidelines, rule books to follow, and health apps to track fans and monitor the spread of the infection.

"By next spring we will be coming up with measures for all spectators including the non-Japan residents," Muto said, speaking in Japanese in an on-line briefing. "For the non-Japanese, we need to be sure we secure a spectating opportunity for them as well."

Initially, Muto said it would be difficult to subject entering fans to a quarantine, and then suggested later it might happen.

"Regarding spectators from overseas, whether they need to go through a 14-day quarantine or not, whether we can waive that or not will depend on the situation," Muto said. "There is a possibility this quarantine is waived if they meet certain conditions."

Organizers and the International Olympic Committee have given themselves at least five more months—into the northern hemisphere spring—to start finalizing how they will pull off the Olympics for 11,000 athletes and tens of thousands of officials, judges, sponsors, media and broadcasters.

It was in early spring this

year that the Games were postponed, unable to see a way forward and now set to open on July 23, 2021.

"The spectators' anxiety of not knowing if they can actually go to the games or not is understandable," Muto said. "We would like to be considerate of the spectators as much as possible while we take preventive measures at the same time to be able to accommodate as many spectators as possible."

IOC President Thomas Bach confirmed on Wednesday in a briefing in Switzerland that he will be in Tokyo next week, his first visit since the Olympics were postponed. Bach gave a firm "no" response when asked if a contingency for canceling the Olympics would be discussed in Tokyo.

Bach is expected to meet

new Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga, and talk with Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike, Tokyo organizing committee President Yoshiro Mori, and others linked to the Olympics.

Muto was asked if foreigners visiting Japan would follow the rules. Japan has been largely successful controlling with virus with just over 1,800 deaths reported.

"I think it's difficult to control their movement and behavior," a Japanese reporter said, speaking in Japanese.

Muto acknowledged the problem. Nearly everyone in Japan wears a mask—nearly everywhere.

"After the entry into Japan, we can't follow the spectators and general consumers like we do athletes, so what should be we do?" Muto said. "We need to make sure the screening is sufficient before they enter into the country. That's a key point."



Brady, Newton, and Rivers still finding footing



BOSTON

(AP)—Cam Newton rattles off nicknames for teammates like

he's calling plays in the huddle.

Buzzo. Bo Diddley. Bent Dog. Crazy Legs. 30 for 30. Kicker Guy. Punter Guy. Snapper Guy.

Newton's got one for just about everyone. Some clear, others covert, most comical.

"I've been a part of teams where, at times you feel like, even though you're sharing or you're locker roommates or you're locker mates, that's just your coworker," Newton said Thursday. "And I've also been around teams that have been extremely close and guys have this family oriented bond and those teams usually last, and that's what we're trying to get to."

Winning might help.

Newton is one of three venerable quarterbacks—along with Tom Brady and Philip Rivers—who made high-profile moves during the NFL's pandemic-altered offseason. The 43-year-old Brady took his six Super Bowl rings from New England to Tampa Bay. The 38-year-old Rivers left the Chargers after 16 seasons and joined Indianapolis. The 31-year-old Newton relocated from Charlotte to New England following an injury-plagued 2019.

It hasn't been a totally smooth transition for any of them, although Brady and Rivers are playoff contenders at the halfway point of the season.

Newton, meanwhile, well, he summed up his season better than a Patriots fan sitting on a barstool in Brookline.

"This has been, as Bostonians would say, a wicked year," Newton quipped.

Newton has 10 touchdowns



AP
Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback Tom Brady (12) winces as he is hit by New Orleans Saints defense during the first half of an NFL game Sunday, Nov. 8, 2020, in Tampa, Fla.

(eight rushing, two passing) and eight turnovers in eight games. The Patriots (3-5) are averaging slightly more than 20 points, ranking 28th in the league and sitting in their lowest spot since quarterbacks Steve Grogan, Tom Hodson and Marc Wilson split starts in 1990.

They edged the winless New York Jets on Monday night to avoid the franchise's first five-game skid since 1995.

"Losing is not acceptable

in this locker room, in this county, in this state, this area, this region," Newton said. "So Cameron Newton, you need to pick your expletive up. That's what I've learned."

In Newton's defense, the talent around him makes his most lean years in Carolina seem stout. He's got a revolving door at running back, no receivers with any touchdown receptions and not a single tight end with double-digit

catches.

Brady knows the feeling.

He found much greener grass in tropical Tampa Bay, which recently added Antonio Brown to a receiving corps that includes Mike Evans, Chris Godwin and Rob Gronkowski. Those four guys have a combined 16 Pro Bowl appearances, two more than Brady.

With Godwin and Gronk healthy and Brown getting acclimated, the Buccaneers

(6-3) should be a team to watch down the stretch in the NFC—even if they didn't look the part last week. Their 38-3 home loss to South-leading New Orleans was the most lopsided in Brady's 21-year career.

"It's a lot of positive yelling that he does," left tackle Donovan Smith said. "It's great to be able to have somebody who has been to the top, been to the Super Bowl and

knows how to get there. You just kind of sit there and you trust him—how he manages the game and communication and everything."

Rivers is coming off his most impressive victory with his new team, a 34-17 comeback at Tennessee on Thursday night that gave the Colts (6-3) their sixth win in eight games and put them atop the AFC South. Rivers played turnover-free football for the fourth time this season—all wins—and found success with a hurry-up offense.

"It just felt like we were dialed in and ready to go," Rivers said. "This performance, from our team, doesn't surprise any of us. ... This was a big win, but we know there is a long way to go."

Brady, Rivers and Newton all thought they were joining playoff-caliber teams. The Bucs were the NFL's top passing team in 2019 with turnover-prone Jameis Winston at the helm. The Colts, who have one of the best pass-blocking lines in the league, were a playoff team in 2018 and probably would have been again last season had they just been better in close games.

And no one could blame Newton for jumping at a chance to play in New England, which has won the AFC East each of the last 11 years and been a perennial playoff contender since Brady and coach Bill Belichick's second season together.

All three are considered short-term fixes at the NFL's most important position.

Rivers signed a one-year, \$25 million deal. Brady got \$50 million fully guaranteed for two years. Newton is playing on a one-year, \$1.75 million contract.



MIAMI—Fifteen years after she first inter-

viewed with a team for their general manager opening, Kim Ng made history on Friday when the Miami Marlins named her their new GM.

She is the first woman in professional American sports—men's sports, that is—to hold the title, ushering in a day that has long seemed as though it would never come.

A fixture in front offices and the league office for decades, Ng is overqualified for her new job, but as any woman who's tried to become "the first" in any gig can tell you, that's basically a requirement. She began her career as an intern in 1990, and eight years later, at 29 years old, she was named assistant GM of the New York Yankees under Brian Cashman.

After three years and three World Series titles with the

GM Kim hiring long overdue breakthrough

Yankees, Ng went to the Los Angeles Dodgers in 2002, interviewing for their GM job in 2005. Passed over for Ned Colletti, she stayed with that franchise until 2011. That's when she moved into the league office as senior vice president of baseball operations.

Over the years, Ng has interviewed with four other teams to become GM, but none pulled the trigger.

Earlier this year, Ng was asked if baseball is ready for a female GM.

"They should be," Ng said. "We see female world leaders, CEOs, secretaries of state. There's no reason that there shouldn't be a woman general manager. I think it's going to take a bold, courageous, gender-blind owner [for the glass ceiling to be broken]."

Marlins CEO and part-owner Derek Jeter, whom Ng worked with during her time with the Yankees, along with controlling owner Bruce Sherman, are those people. The chief operating officer of the Marlins is also a woman, Caroline O'Connor.

The team isn't shying away from its decision: After a tweet trumpeting her hire and highlighting just some of her achievements, the avatar for the Marlins' Twitter feed was changed to a picture of Ng, announcing "OUR gm."

Ng said in the Marlins' statement on Friday announcing the news she is "dogged in the pursuit of my goals." There is no more perfect way to describe her and her journey. This is her dream job, and she never took "no" for an an-

swer in getting there.

She started her career with the Chicago White Sox as an intern before becoming full-time with the team in 1991. She later was promoted to assistant director of operations in 1995. That year, she became the first woman, and youngest person, to present a salary arbitration case in MLB.

Angels hire Minasian

Perry Minasian has been named the Los Angeles Angels' general manager.

The Angels announced the hiring of the Atlanta Braves' assistant general manager Thursday to replace Billy Eppler. Minasian got a four-year contract.

"His background in scouting and player development along with his unique understanding of roster construction

were the leading factors in our decision," Angels owner Arte Moreno said in a statement.

Minasian spent the past three years in the Braves' front office with GM Alex Anthopoulos, including the past two seasons as Atlanta's vice president of baseball operations. Minasian also worked for Anthopoulos during his previous nine seasons with the Toronto Blue Jays, where Minasian became the club's director of pro scouting.

Minasian has been a part of ample success over the past six years. Toronto and Atlanta reaching the playoffs five times in that stretch, appearing in three league championship series and winning three division titles.

His new team has endured five straight losing seasons for the first time since 1977, and its winning percentage over

the past two seasons is the Angels' worst two-year run since 1992-93. Los Angeles hasn't won a playoff game since 2009, winning the AL West and reaching the postseason just once in that 11-year span.

The 40-year-old Minasian has been in baseball since he was an 8-year-old batboy for the Texas Rangers, where his father, Zack, was the team's clubhouse manager. He became a clubhouse attendant and eventually an advance scout for the Rangers before serving as an assistant to manager Buck Showalter.

Minasian won an extensive competition to replace Eppler, who was fired Sept. 27 by Moreno after Los Angeles finished its fifth consecutive losing season in his tenure. The Angels also made deep cuts in their scouting department earlier this year with furloughs during the coronavirus pandemic. (AP/NBC)

Giannis leaves door open for Bucks' extension



NEW YORK—In a shortened 2020 NBA offseason, Giannis Antetokounmpo's future with the Milwaukee Bucks is the domino that could completely change the future of multiple teams.

So far, the two-time MVP has said he won't push for an exit from this team this offseason and discussed the future of the

WEIGHT

From Page 20

ment. That said, if you ask anybody who's made dramatic changes in their health and appearance, no doubt they had to compromise. Surely, they experienced setbacks along the way as well. This isn't an angle or some ploy to shame you into adopting an entirely different lifestyle. The point here is, sometimes you have to take it for what it is, and at the very least, do the bare minimum.

HELL

From Page 20

dividual) and \$80 (relay) starting on Dec. 1.

Last year's Hell of the Marianas drew more than 100 bikers, including men's champion and Australia's Kevin Biffiger. The biker from the Land Down Under completed the 100K course in 2:57:02, more than seven minutes behind Edgar Nohales Nieto of Spain. Biffiger was handed the victory after Nieto and four other members of the lead pack took the wrong turn in the third leg of last year's race, missing the turnaround point in Kagman and were eventually disqualified.



franchise in a private meeting with ownership, but there have also been more cryptic signs, like unfollowing his Bucks teammates on Instagram.

Even if Antetokounmpo says he's staying with the Bucks next season, the bigger questions of Antetokounmpo's free agency next offseason remains. Will Antetokounmpo sign a supermax extension worth over \$200 million in the coming weeks to stay with the team in the long term, or will he decide to test the market and potentially go elsewhere?

One interview with Swedish newspaper Aftonbladet provided another glimpse into Antetokounmpo's thinking about the situation. Simply put, Antetokounmpo wants to stay with the Bucks, provided they give him the chance to win championships.

"There are a lot of rumors. Everyone has opinions. But at the end of the day, I will do what is best for my family. I do not see why I could not be in Milwaukee for several years. As long as Milwaukee and I are on the same page when it comes to being one of the best teams in the league and winning championships, that's fine. When it changes, it will not be good. It's easy, I want to be a winner. I do not care about the money. My family is fine and I can take care of my children and grandchildren so that's not the most important thing right now, it's winning. As long as we can win and create a winning culture, it will be good," Antetokounmpo said.

When asked if the plan is to stay in Milwaukee next year and then maybe sign an extension, Antetokounmpo replied "I

do not know what the plan is. It depends on what decisions they make. If they make the right decision, I'll be there for many years. If they do not, we'll see. The NBA is business and we take it day by day. Hopefully we can succeed together."

It's not clear what decisions Antetokounmpo is looking for from the Bucks, but the team is probably well aware of his wishes. We can at least assume that standing pat with the team that excelled in the regular season only to again fall short in the playoffs is not the decision Antetokounmpo wants to see.

The rub of the Bucks' Antetokounmpo situation is that if the team can't convince him to lock in for the long term, it likely won't be able to sign him to an extension until after next season. ESPN's Zach Lowe pointed out that Antetokounmpo

won't be able to sign a supermax in the middle of the season.

Antetokounmpo says he doesn't care about money in the interview above, but turning down the tens of millions of extra dollars the supermax represents just to commit to the Bucks during the season doesn't sound like a sacrifice anyone would be willing to make.

So, for the Bucks, it's either make the right moves and get Antetokounmpo to sign the supermax this offseason, or wait until next offseason and hope that this year's playoffs were enough to convince him Milwaukee is the place to be going forward.

Knicks interested in Hayward

Another team reportedly is getting involved in the po-

AP
Milwaukee Bucks forward Giannis Antetokounmpo (34) is defended by Miami Heat forward Bam Adebayo (13) and guard Jimmy Butler during the first half of an NBA game Thursday, Aug. 6, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

tential Gordon Hayward sweepstakes.

According to reports, the New York Knicks are interested in acquiring Hayward if the Boston Celtics forward becomes available next week.

Hayward has a \$34.2 million player option for 2021, but a report earlier this month stated he wants out of Boston. The 30-year-old also recently has been connected to the Indiana Pacers in trade rumors, so a sign-and-trade is a real possibility.

During the 2019-20 season, Hayward averaged 17.5 points, 6.7 rebounds and 4.1 assists through 52 games played.

76ers join CP3 trade talks

Where Chris Paul ultimately lands is anyone's guess, but as of Thursday, there was another team to add to the list that seems to keep growing: the 76ers.

Philadelphia has interest and there's been some cursory conversation between Philadelphia and Oklahoma City, but some don't get the impression there's any traction there/ Without question, Paul would help the Sixers, but he would help most NBA teams. The real question is whether the Sixers have an enticing enough package to get serious consideration from Paul. (AP/NBC)

AGAPE

From Page 20

in the podium, while four SIS runners—Jimin Woo, Charles McDonald, Andrew Sablan, and Sean Lee—and two more Agape students—Abraham Zhu and Peter Shen—made it to the Top 10. Skyler Poon was the lone Mt. Carmel School players to barge into the Top 10, while other finishers were Agape's Timothy Yu and Caleb Dai, SIS' Yunwoo Nam, Mt. Carmel's Robin Alcarez, Jihwan Ryu, Mark Jainier Chavez, and Vince Salvador, and MHS' John Lloyd Dela Cruz.

In the girls U18 division, Cabrera also had a convincing win, breaking away from the lead group after passing the finish line loop on her way to the second lap of the course. The SIS student handed Agape's Emma Pang another runner-up finish. Agape dominated anew the Top 10 with Eunice Xu, Grace Shi, Elizabeth Xu, and Vivian and Sally



Saipan International School's Tiana Cabrera, left, joins a small group of runners on their way to completing the first lap of the 3.1-mile course in last Saturday's 2020-2021 Public School System/Northern Marianas Athletics All Schools Cross Country Series at the CPA Airport Field.

Wu taking the No. 3 to No. 8 rankings, respectively. SIS' Linxi Cai, MHS' Allyssya Angeles, and Mt. Carmel's Aleia

Santos rounded out the Top 10. Other finishers in the girls high school race were SIS' Jinnie Thompson and Pyper

Liske-Clark, MHS' Jerlyn Castillo, Kina Rangalar, and Sedrei Camacho, and Mt. Carmel's Erin Frink, Fiona Buca-



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Two runners keep a steady pace as they go for the second lap of the race.

fig, Kaia Travilla, and Amay Grace Reyes.

Last Saturday's event was the penultimate qualifier for U18 division. The last qualifier will be held this Saturday and high school runners must compete in at least one trial to be able to

gain entry to the championship race scheduled for Dec. 5 also at the CPA Airport Field.

Meanwhile, the middle school's second qualifier was also held last weekend and results will be reported in *Saipan Tribune's* Tuesday edition.



Dustin Johnson
seizes control
at Masters

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Brady, Newton,
and Rivers still
finding footing

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Agape, SIS split top honors

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan International School's Tiana Cabrera made it two in a row, while Agape Christian School's Peter Hu won his debut as the 2020-2021 Public School System/Northern Marianas Athletics All Schools Cross Country Series continued last Saturday at the CPA Airport Field.

Cabrera was the top finisher anew in the girls high school (U18) division after clocking in at 22:32 in the 3.1-mile race. The SIS student beat her time in the opening leg (23:19).

In the boys U18 division, Hu did not surpass the winning time (20:31) of SIS' Rex Pixley in the kick-off leg, but the Agape runner foiled the Geckos bet's bid for back-to-



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

High school runners enter the loop on their way out to the course during last Saturday's second leg of the 2020-2021 Public School System/Northern Marianas Athletics All Schools Cross Country Series at the CPA Airport Field.

back victories. Hu completed the three-lap course in 20:41. Hu, Pixley, and two other Agape runners kept each other's company early in the race before the former made his move on



his way to completing the second lap. For the final lap, the Agape student finished way ahead of his closest pursuer, as he was alone when he entered the finish line loop, while Pixley was still on

the other side of the course.

The second leg of the boys U18 race drew more participants, but still Agape and SIS stood out. Agape's David Zhao joined Hu and Pixley

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Agape Christian School's Peter Hu is on his way to a first place finish in the boys U18 race.

Shortened course for Hell of Marianas

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This year's Hell of the Marianas will go ahead amid the COVID-19 pandemic, but the course will be shortened.

Instead of the usual 100-kilometer race, the Dec. 6 event will only cover a distance of 68K, according to race director Jay Diyco of the Northern Mariana Islands Cycling Federation. Diyco added that they decided to shorten

and alter the course since no pros and off-island bikers are allowed to compete in the event that's dubbed as the Century Cycle Race (thus the 100K distance). NMICF will be working on local events



for now and hopes to bring back the original distance and course next year.

This year's Hell of Marianas will only have two divisions, solo race and two-person relay team.

For the individual category, bikers will start and end the race at the former Mariana Resort & Spa in Marpi and will pass through Mobil Tanapag, 5 Corners, La Fiesta, and 4 Corners (no Radar route). In the relay, the first lap, which will have bikers leaving Mariana Resort for Mobil Tanapag and 5 Corners and back to start/finish line, while the second and lap will bring riders to La Fiesta and 4 Corners (no Radar) before heading back to Marianas Resort.

Registration fees are \$30 (solo) and \$60 (relay) if settled on or before Nov. 30. Entry fees will increase to \$40 (in-

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NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS CYCLING FEDERATION

Bikers head up north in Marpi during last year's Hell of Marianas Century Cycle Race.

Weight fluctuations revisited

Ask DRE:

By DRE DELOS SANTOS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Dre Delos Santos writes about fitness and nutrition for Saipan Tribune and TAGA Sports. He is a personal trainer at Gold's Gym. He is featured on fitness sites such as Weight Watchers, T-Nation, and STACK.



If your clothes are fitting better in the desired areas, you're looking visibly leaner, and you're getting stronger, guess what? That's progress. Vastly more meaningful, if you ask me.

Make no mistake, the scale is still valuable IF you're able to look at it objectively—because there are instances where you're on the money majority of the week then you let yourself go on the weekends. But, by and large, putting too much stock into what it says can make you out of sorts, and in extreme cases, it can certainly stymie your momentum.

Day-to-day fluctuations are normal. What you need to realize is there are multiple drivers that can influence those abrupt changes in weight, and rarely is it indicative of body fat gain. That only becomes a fact if you've been habitually eat-

ing (and drinking) in such a manner that's not conducive to weight loss.

Taking ownership of your health

Getting people leaner and stronger, but most of all, educating them on how to do it the right way based on their needs and preference has been my professional wheelhouse for seven years.

And interestingly, this particular realization came to me bit by bit: the ones that continue to struggle with their health and fitness goals are typically folks that are very good at rationalizing lousy habits.

I understand some of you will roll your eyes because you legitimately are in less-than-ideal circumstances, which prohibits you from making any sort of commit-

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